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Volume 71, Issue 49 · www.wilcoxnewspapers.com

Thursday, June 4, 2026

This year, 34 Plainwell seniors graduated with a GPA of 4.0 or higher, earning them Top Honors recognition. (Photo provided)

Plainwell HS recognizes 34 Top Honors graduates from Class of 2026

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Each year, Plainwell High School recognizes members of its graduating class who achieve grade-point averages of 4.0 or higher.

For the Class of 2026, 34 students earned Top Honors recognition.

Leading the group were valedictorian Hiro Nguyen and salutatorian Josephine Longcore, both of whom distinguished themselves in the classroom and through their involvement in a variety of extracurricular activities.

Nguyen, the son of Marie Tsuji and Thang Nguyen, plans to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and study aerospace engineering.

Along with being named valedictorian, Nguyen was involved in robotics, Quiz Bowl, National Honor Society, cross country, swimming, track and field, Multicultural Club, Comic Book Club and PALs during his time at Plainwell High School.

His honors include being named a National Merit Finalist, AP Scholar with Distinction, Academic All-State in cross country and swimming, Wolverine Conference Scholar-Athlete and recipient of the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy.

Longcore, the daughter of Andra and Ben Longcore, plans to attend the University of Michigan and major in secondary education.

During her time at Plainwell High School, she participated in cross country, track and field, Quiz Bowl, musical productions and National Honor Society.

Her honors and accomplishments include AP Scholar recognition and academic All-State honors in cross country and track and field.

The following students also earned Top Honors recognition from Plainwell High:

Brady Aernie
Parents: Andrew Aernie and Kellay Ridderman
College/Major: Albion College, Pre-Veterinary
Activities: Football, wrestling, track, NHS, NAMI
Honors/Awards: Top Honors, Academic All-State, Honorable Mention All-Conference (football)

Chibueze Amaezechi
Parents: Kate and Joshua Amaezechi
College/Major: Michigan State University, Engineering
Activities: Basketball, football, Multicultural Club, NHS
Honors/Awards: Top Honors, Honorable Mention All-State, First Team All-Conference (basketball, twice), Second Team All-Conference (football)

Brooklyn Barrows
Parents: Andrea and Gordon Barrows
College/Major: Western Michigan University, Music Education and Clarinet Performance
Activities: Marching Band, Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestra, Pep

■ see **Grads**, Page A10

OHS grad earns research award at ecology conference

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

OTSEGO—An Otsego High School graduate recently earned recognition for her undergraduate research while representing Kalamazoo College at a regional scientific conference.

Mia Crites, a member of Kalamazoo College's Class of 2026 and a 2022 Otsego High School graduate, received the award for Best Undergraduate Poster at the 2026 Great Lakes Chapter meeting of the Ecological Society of America in Cleveland, Ohio.

The conference brought together undergraduate and professional ecologists from across the Great Lakes region and Canada.

Crites earned the honor for research she conducted as part of her Senior Integrated Project (SIP) in the laboratory of Associate Professor of Biology Santiago Salinas. Her project examined whether adaptation to pollution affects the ability of Atlantic killifish populations to respond to thermal stress.

"My main goal with this SIP was just to gain some experience in the lab as an undergrad, specifically in designing and running an experiment, and then writing the paper afterward," Crites said. "I accomplished most of my goals, got a taste of what research is really like, and feel more prepared leaving K to venture on in the scientific world."

Otsego High School graduate Mia Crites (second from left) joined fellow Kalamazoo College students Annaliese Bol (far left) and Hailey Yoder (second from right) and Professor of Biology Binney Girdler (far right) at the Ecological Society of America Great Lakes Chapter Conference in Cleveland. (Photo provided)

The conference marked the first time Crites had attended and presented research at a professional academic gathering.

"Talking to other conference goers that share a similar love for biology helped me to solidify that this is something that I want to continue to be involved in and have a large passion for," she said.

Crites was one of three Kalamazoo College students to attend the conference. Annaliese Bol received the award for Best Undergraduate Talk, while Hailey Yoder also presented research completed as part of her SIP.

Bol's award-winning presentation focused on how heat waves affect blue orchard bees, a native solitary bee species that plays an important role in agricultural pollination.

"We found some interesting evidence that the bees aren't being affected by heat waves in the way that we studied them," Bol said. "It's rare to find good news when you're working with climate-change science."

At the conference banquet, Crites and Bol each received award certificates, $150 prizes from the Ecological Society of America and gift baskets presented by Great Lakes Chapter officials.

In addition to her academic work, Crites has been active on the athletic field during her time at Kalamazoo College. The biology major was a four-year member of the Hornets women's soccer team.

Mia Crites receives rewards from former ESA Great Lakes past-Chair Andrea Corbett for earning Best Undergraduate Poster honors at the ESA ecology conference. (Photo provided)

Crites said the experience reinforced her interest in continuing her education and pursuing a career in the field.

"As of right now, I don't have any plans locked in for after graduation, but I'd like to travel a bit, ideally find a seasonal job or two working in a biology lab, and then eventually go back to grad school to study ecology and evolutionary biology," she said.

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The 1st Bridgefest Miss Allegan Competition

By Gari Voss

Attention all girls between the ages of 14 (by June 1st) and 18, and will be a high school student in the fall of 2026. Bridgefest has added a new event just for you. The idea began with Ashlyyn Pullen who wanted to promote Allegan while giving young people a voice. That voice allows you to share your ideas with a larger audience.

"Join us for a magical day of competition," encourages Ashlyyn Pullen. "Share your mission, talent, and poise during interviews."

The competition will have several phases.

First, you must **register**. You can get your registration form by texting 269 650-0860.

Second, complete the form which will ask you to **select a Mission Statement**. That statement will include what you would like to see in Allegan. That change will improve Allegan to make it better. Also, **choose a talent** that makes you unique - a song (instrumental or vocal), a dance, a comedy sketch, a poem, whatever you choose that will set you apart from the other contestants.

Next, you will **send your completed form** to Ashlyyn with a $15 entry fee.

Then the work begins as you **create a presentation** that will demonstrate to the judges the importance of your change for the City of Allegan. You may wish to create a single visual that can be shown while you give your presentation. You must be ready to share your talent.

On Saturday, June 13th, you will arrive at the Griswold Auditorium at 8:30am to dress and make final preparations for your presentation and talent. It is important to dress nicely, present yourself well, and be thoughtful of others.

About 10am, the **Mission Presentations** will begin in front of the judges. These will be followed by the **Talent Performance**.

After the Talent Performance, the judges will ask each contestant a **five question interview**. The responses during this interview will be considered along with your presentation and talent.

When all contestants have completed the three segments of the pageant, the judges will retire and choose their top five selections.

At 6pm, the top five candidates will go to the Riverfront Stage. At this point, the judges will pose one more question to each finalist. From the responses to this final question, Miss Allegan will be chosen.

For additional information, email alleganmiss@gmail.com.

West Michigan youth earns statewide recognition

By Gari Voss & Adam Russo

Students participating in the Jobs for Michigan's Graduates (JMG) program through the West Michigan Works! Ascend program were recognized for leadership, career readiness and workforce development skills during Youth Solutions' statewide Career Development Conference on April 30 at Saginaw Valley State University. The award honors active JMG participants who demonstrate extraordinary commitment to the program and their personal goals.

Skye Hess of the Allegan County Service Center was recognized as a JMG Exemplary Youth of the Year, an honor awarded to 10 outstanding participants – one from each of Michigan's Prosperity Regions. The West Michigan Prosperity Alliance includes Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola and Ottawa counties.

After facing significant personal and financial hardships during high school, including the loss of her grandmother and her mother's job, Hess decided to pursue her GED with support from the JMG program and career coaches at West Michigan Works! Allegan County Service Center.

Through mentorship and career development guidance, she completed her GED, discovered a passion for education and enrolled at Kalamazoo Valley Community College with plans to become a high school teacher. While balancing work and continued involvement with JMG, Hess was

Skye Hess

recognized for her resilience, leadership and commitment to building a brighter future.

"I really hadn't realized how much I had accomplished in the past year. My career coach brought it into perspective, stating that many people only accomplish one of those events in a year," said Hess. "The Ascend program and JMG, helped me have purpose and gave me a list of goals I now know I can accomplish."

"We are committed to helping young people build confidence, develop career readiness skills and connect to meaningful educational and employment opportunities," said Chad Patton, Director of Development and Innovation, West Michigan Works!. "Watching these young people step outside their comfort zones and earn recognition at the state level is incredibly rewarding."

For more information about the Ascend and other programs, go to https://www.westmiworks.org/job-seekers/achieve-a-better-brighter-future/ or call (269) 686-5079.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Bridgefest 2026 Schedule of Events

Allegan residents and visitors look forward to Bridgefest on the second Saturday of each June. This year on June 13, 2026, from 11am to 9pm, the streets and Riverfront of Allegan will send out festive vibes as area organizations set up booths and provide activities for kids and adults. Most of the day's festivities will begin at 11am and Justice Hill and Nightime Love will bring the day to a close at 9pm.

The full schedule of events is as follows:

10am-9pm: Perrigo Plaza Splash Pad
10am-6pm: Make-and-Take Allegan-Themed Shirt Bar at The Sassy Olive
10am-4pm: Turn of the Century Summer Social at the Old Jail Museum
11am-11pm: Downtown Allegan Social District
11am-9pm: Food Trucks
11am-6pm: Inflatables, Dunk Tank, Yard Games by The Allegan District Library & The Friends of Allegan District Library
11am-6pm: Bridgefest Expo by the Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce
11am-6pm Smash Station by Broken Arrow Recycling
11am-6pm: Bridgefest Art Market by The Sassy Olive & Eccentric Garden & Essenburg Arts
11am-6pm: Bridgefest Boat Show by Gull Lake Marine
11am-6pm: Miss Allegan Pageant at The Griswold Auditorium
11am-5pm: Worldwide Knit in Public Day - Open Sit & Stitch at The Bear & Fox Yarn Den
11am-5pm: Pokémon GO Event at Tardy's Underground
11am-5pm: Plein Air on the River by Brave Art Studio
11am-4pm: Downtown Throw-Down Urban Disc Golf by Brave Art Studio
11am-3pm: Children's Entrepreneur Market
12pm-6pm: Free-Throw Competition & 3-Point Shot by the Allegan Basketball Program
12pm-3pm: Panda Pete at Hanson Gazebo
1pm: Eagles Corn Hole Tournament (register @ 12:00pm)
3pm-5pm: Tangent on the Riverfront Stage
4pm: Brew Hop .5K by Tantrick Brewing Co, Heronmark, Schaendorf Brewing Company
5pm-8pm: Watermelon Carving with The Lord of The Gourd on the Allegan Riverfront
6pm: Miss Allegan Crowning Ceremony on the Riverfront Stage
7pm-9pm: Justice Hill and Nightime Love on the Riverfront Stage

There are activities being added to the Schedule of Events on a regular basis because organizations and businesses are still completing their registration forms. Be sure to check in at https://www.facebook.com/events/1996876330931693/ for updates.

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Kathy Keene

Kathy Keene's casual luncheon open house memorial will be June 13th, Saturday between 1:00 and 4:00... at 2030 30th {A37} Street, (Gorbys) Allegan, Michigan. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Austin/Keene pool fund in memory of Kathy would be appreciated. Kathy passed December 28, 2025.

They're in Good Hands Here

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(269) 685-5894
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Bluegrass Animal Clinic
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Free circus, home tour and more fill the calendar in Fennville

Fennville residents have plenty to choose from in the days ahead, with a traveling circus performing downtown, three local homes featured on a regional tour, an artisan market, live music at the vineyards, and a full slate of programming at the library. From Thursday, June 4 through Monday, June 8, here's a look at what's happening around town.

A Free Show Under the Big Top

The Medieval Circus Spectacle wraps up its three-day visit to Fennville this Thursday, June 4, with a 6 p.m. performance at 203 W. Main St. — the final of three nightly shows running June 2-4.

Presented by The Kingdom of Wonders, the family-friendly show promises an evening of jaw-dropping spectacle for all ages. And the best part for families looking to fill a Thursday evening: admission is 100 percent free, hosted by the city of Fennville.

While there's no cost to attend, organizers ask audiences to book ahead at www.TheKingdomOfWonders.com , since space at each performance is limited. The downtown location and 6 p.m. start time make it an easy stop for families before dinner in town.

Three Fennville Homes on the Parade Tour

The Lakeshore Parade of Homes opens its first of two weekends Thursday, June 4, with three homes in the Fennville (49408) zip code among the stops. The event runs Thursday through Saturday, June 4-6, then again June 11-13, with all homes open from noon to 8 p.m. daily.

Hosted by the Lakeshore Home Builders Association, the tour spans new builds from Muskegon to Fennville, giving visitors a look at the area's latest finishes, floor plans, and outdoor spaces. Visitors create their own route, start at any home on the list, and a single ticket covers the entire two-weekend event.

Tickets are $10 at any Lake Michigan Credit Union location through June 13, or $15 online and at the homes during the event. Children 12 and under are free. The full home list, directions, and online sales are available at www.lakeshoreparadeofhomes.com and www.lakeshorehba.ludus.com .

Music in the Vineyards Returns

Just outside town, Fenn Valley Vineyards is back into its summer rhythm with Music in the Vineyards, the winery's free weekly concert series that runs every Thursday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and every Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. through early October.

Thursday, June 4 features the Atomic Annie Duo under the trellises. On Saturday afternoon, June 6, Down River Dan takes over for a relaxed afternoon set. Both performances are weather-permitting and free to attend, with wine, cider, and small bites available for purchase. Guests are welcome to bring lawn chairs and blankets; outside food is welcome, but no outside alcohol is allowed. Fenn Valley is located at 6130 122nd Ave in Fennville,

Artisan and Craft Market Friday

Looking for something different on Friday? The Fennville Area Artisan and Craft Vendors Market sets up at Orchard Hills Village 2400 56th St, Fennville, MI, United States, 49408 on Friday, June 5 from 4-7PM, hosted by Jennifer Clapp Burnett and organized through the Fennville Area Artisan and Craft Vendors group.

The weekly market features a rotating lineup of local makers and a good variety of products from week to week. Organizers describe it as a chance to "come and shop, enjoy family time, and get out of the house" — a relaxed afternoon setting for browsing handmade goods and supporting local artisans.

At the Library: Art Club and a Summer Reading Carnival

The Fennville District Library has events bookending the long weekend, starting Thursday and finishing Monday.

For families with school-age kids, the library hosts **Art Club** on Thursday, June 4 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Each session features a different art project, and the program is open to all ages — "fun for the whole family," according to library staff. The library is located at 400 W. Main St.

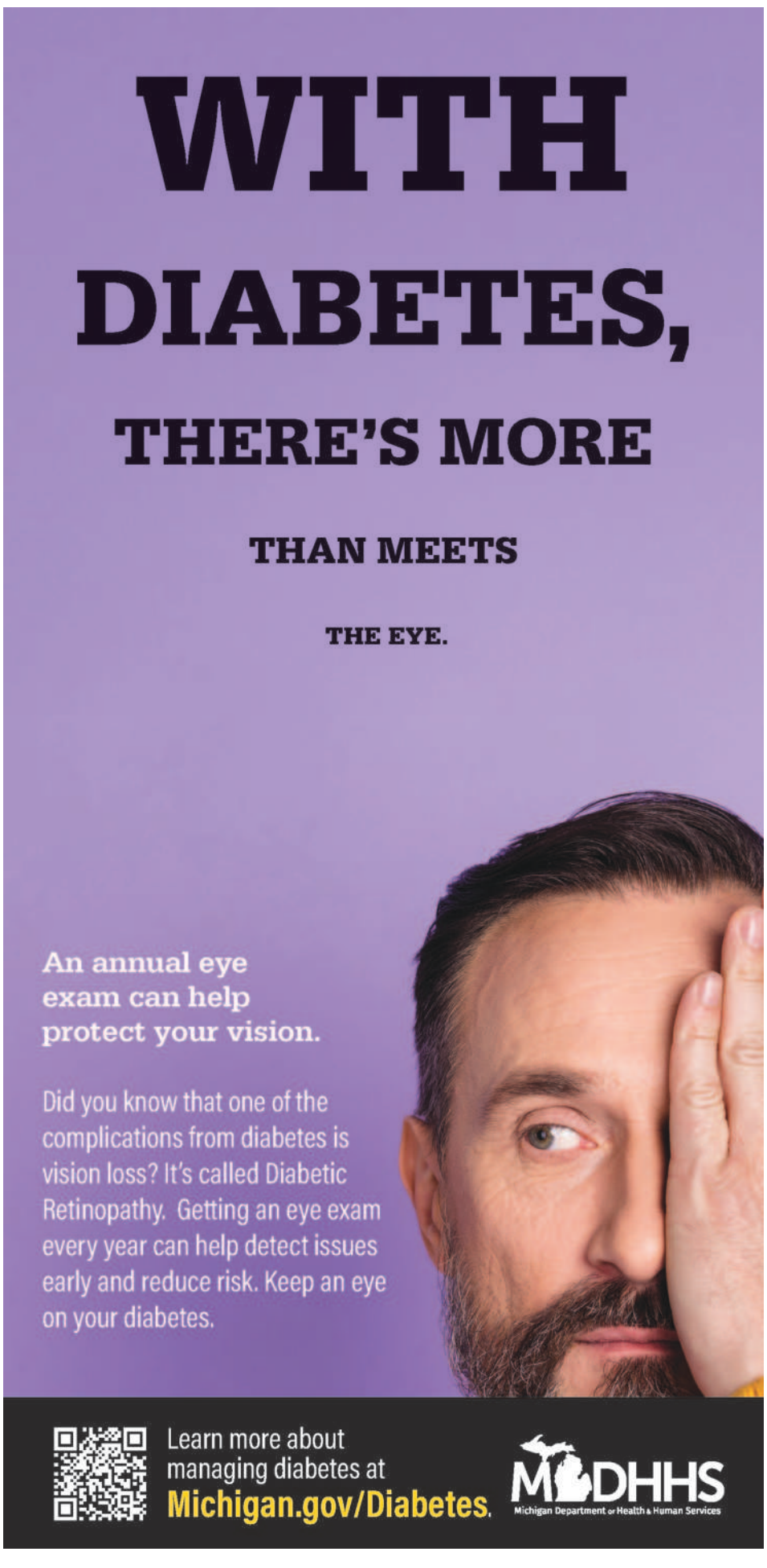
Then on Monday, June 8, the library kicks off summer reading with a full-day carnival. The **"Unearth a Story" Summer Reading Kick-Off Carnival** runs from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., with dinosaur-themed games, crafts, and activities filling the day. Families can sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge and enjoy a Dinosaur Walk Scavenger Hunt, Hunting for Dino Ducks, Feed the T-Rex Bowling, Tricera-Toss, Dinosaur Bingo, crafts, a temporary tattoo booth, and sweet treats.

Running alongside the carnival, the **Fennville Friends of the Library Bag Book Sale** runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. — a chance to fill a bag with discounted titles and support the library at the same time.

Looking Ahead

With the Parade of Homes continuing into the following weekend and Fenn Valley's Music in the Vineyards running weekly all summer, there's plenty more to come. For families planning ahead, the Fourth Friday in Fennville series picks up June 26.

For now, the circus tents come down, the homes open up, and Fennville's slate of family-friendly events makes for a memorable kickoff to summer in West Michigan.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Learn more about managing diabetes at Michigan.gov/Diabetes.
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Community Events

Event information can be sent to:
wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com

EVENTS TO WATCH!

Thurs., June 4, 2026, 8am-2pm: Allegan Farmers Market. Cutler Parking Lot Allegan

Sat., June 6, 2026, 7am-4pm: Bloomingdale Café 1st year. Café 102 N. VanBuren St. Bloomingdale

Sat., June 6, 2026, 10am: Drone Club. Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

Sun., June 7, 2026, 2-4pm: Sip & Shop then Swap Plants. Tantrick Down Under 142 Hubbard St. Allegan

Mon., June 8, 2026, 6pm: Local Author Reading: Reflection of a Grateful Nurse. Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., June 3, 2026, 10am-noon: Clean Up M-89 Boat Launch
M-89 Bridge Boat Launch west of M-40N
Ages 12 & up should wear long sleeves, long pants, bring water. Trash bags and gloves provided. Register at allegan.admin@macd.org.

Wed., June 3, 2026, 11am-3pm: House of the Rising Song Café
Good Shepherd Church 101 N. Walnut St. Allegan
Grab your instrument and join the jam or just come and listen and have lunch. Eat lunch, relax, refresh, repeat.

Wed., June 3, 2026, 6pm: Pintesting: Van Gogh Sunflower
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Register at 269 673-4625 to chat while doing a paint-along inspired by Van Gogh.

Thurs., June 4, 2026, 8am-2pm: Allegan Farmers Market
Cutler Parking Lot Allegan
Favorite and new vendors each week. Come and stock up.

Sat., June 6, 2026, 7am-4pm: Bloomingdale Café 1st year
Café 102 N. VanBuren St. Bloomingdale
A thank you to the community for their support.

Sat., June 6, 2026, 10am: Drone Club
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Meet Alan behind the library with your drone or borrow one for fun.

Sun., June 7, 2026, 2-4pm: Sip & Shop then Swap Plants
Tantrick Down Under 142 Hubbard St. Allegan
Eccentric Garden will host a Sip, Shop & Mingle from 2-3pm and a Plant Swap from 3-4pm. Shop with Frankie's Fauna & Flora and Grow & Glow Creations. There is a 15% discount at Eccentric Garden.

Mon., June 8, 2026, 6pm: Local Author Reading: Reflection of a Grateful Nurse
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Register at 269 673-4625 to join Wendy Gilbert Gronbeck as she reads selections from her book, *Gifts from the Edge of Life: Reflections of a Grateful Nurse*, winner of the 2025 Michigan Writers Creative Non-fiction Chapbook contest.

Tues., June 9, 2026, 9am: Coffee for Vets
Immanuel Lutheran Church 631 Grand St. Allegan
All Vets and those serving in the military forces are invited to coffee and fellowship with coffee and donuts. Questions: call 269 673-3335

Tues., June 9, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. 0-2 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
6:30pm: Adult Book Club. Drop in to explore *Isola: A Novel*, by Allegra Goodman. Copies are at the library.

Tues., June 9, 2026, 11am-1pm: Pop Up Lunch for Everyone
Good Shepherd Church 101 N. Walnut St. Allegan
Drop in anytime for a great lunch from Meals on Wheels. Enjoy time with friends and find new acquaintances. Seniors 60 & up can make a donation. Under 60 is $5.

Wed., June 10-13, 2026: Family RV – Glamarama
Allegan County Fairground Allegan
The Great Lakes Area of Family RV Association invites campers to join a rally for a wonderful beginning of summer experience. For additional information contact Kevin Watters at 260 750-2822 or kwatters@fmca.com.

Wed., June 10, 2026, 11am-3pm: House of the Rising Song Café
Good Shepherd Church 101 N. Walnut St. Allegan
Grab your instrument and join the jam or just come and listen and have lunch. Eat lunch, relax, refresh, repeat.

Wed., June 10, 2026, 2pm: Recess for Adults
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Drop in and interact with friends from the Arc of Allegan County.

Thurs., June 11, 2026, 10:30am: Preschool Storytime
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
3-5 year olds can drop in for stories and activities.

Thurs., June 11, 2026, 8am-2pm: Allegan Farmers Market
Cutler Parking Lot Allegan
Favorite and new vendors each week. Come and stock up.

Thurs., June 11, 2026, 8:30am: 2026 Chamber Classic Golf Tournament
Cheshire Hille Golf Course 102nd Ave., Allegan
Sign up by June 5th. and enjoy a bit of competition and a lot of fun.

Thurs., June 11, 2026, 5-8pm: Family Fun Night
The Backyard 10441 Stadium Dr. Kalamazoo
Join Safe Harbor Chiren's Advocacy Center for an evening of games, food, and connection that supports Safe Harbor's mission to give children a safe place to be heard and begin healing. Register at https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/family-fun-night-at-the-backyard

Fri., June 12, 2026, 6:30-9:30pm: Rollin' on the River – Justico Hill & Nighttime Love
Riverfront Stage Allegan
Enjoy R&B, Soul and Pop while mixing with friends and having food and beverages.

Sat., June 13, 2026, 7-11:30am: Lake Allegan Carp Derby
Allegan Dam Upper Boat Launch, 4120 Allegan Dam Rd., Allegan
Details & registration: bit.ly/lacd26. Register online and begin fishing any time after midnight. Bring your carp to be logged after 7am and before 11:30am for great prizes.

Sat., June 13, 2026, 10am-4pm: Downtown Throwdown – Disc Golf
Bridgefest Downtown
First 50 to register day of the event get a custom stamped Innova disc. And complete the non-sanctioned, Inner-City, 9-basket, par 2 Pop-Up Course. Sponsored by Brave Art Studios.

Sat., June 13, 2026, 11am-10pm: Bridgefest
Downtown Allegan. Bridgefest celebrates Allegan's Old Iron Bridge and the start of summer since the mid-1980s. The all-day event features activities for kids and adults, music and entertainment, food and beverages, and more.

Sat., June 13, 2026, 11am-5pm: Painting on the Riverfront Plaza.
Bridgefest Allegan
Artists are welcome to bring 3-5 pieces for sale with 25% commission, 20% to the Griswold Auditorium upgrades, 5% covers fees involved for Brave Art. For those who handle their own sales, please make a 20% donation to the City of Allegan from Bridgefest Plein Air for the Griswold.

Mon., June 15, 2026: Library Fun – Summer Reading begins
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
12:30pm: Read Allegan Tutor Training. Register at 269 673-4625 to learn how to assist adults with their reading.
2pm: Jurassic Magic Show. Drop in to journey back in time with magician Joel Tacey.
6pm: Craftastic: Stamp Carving. Register at 269 673-4625 to carve your own stamps using printmaking tools.

Mon., June 15, 2026, 5-8pm: Fork in the Road, Food Truck Rally
Downtown Allegan, MI
Try a taste from a rotating selection of food, sip and stroll the Downtown Allegan Social District (if that's your thing), and shop stores open extended hours during Fork in the Road!

Tues., June 16, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. 0-2 year olds can drop in for stories and activities.
2pm: Children's Summer Concert with BenJammin. Drop in to make music with BenJammin.

Tues., June 16, 2026, 12-1pm: Leadership Roundtable
ACCF 112 Locust St. Allegan or Zoom
This roundtable offers a trusted environment where leaders can brainstorm ideas, work through challenges, and offer assistance to peers. Register: alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES
ASSISTANCE

Addiction Support Group, Thursdays 7-8pm
1900 Lincoln Road, Allegan
Come as you are.

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Thursdays & Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

Grief Support Groups
Wings of Hope invites all to a welcoming and compassionate gathering. 1st Monday of the month – 6-7:30pm, Wings of Hope Office, 530 Linn St., Allegan; 2nd Tues. of each month – 12:30-2pm, United Methodist Church, 322 Maple St., Hopkins; 3rd Monday of each month – 3-4:30pm, Ransom District Library, 189 S. Sherwood Ave., Plainwell; 4th Tues., Grief Support Luncheon, 1pm, Salvino's 1290 M89, Plainwell.

Love, Inc.
Love in the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton
For assistance with food, personal care items, baby needs, household items, clothing, appliances, furniture, bicycles, laundry, showers & Life Skills Wrap Around Care, call 269 751-2533. Visit www.loveincnwa.org., email: office@loveincnwa.org.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborcac.org, (269) 673-3791

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Allegan patrons enjoy busy weekend

By Gari Voss

May went out with wonderful events for the City of Allegan. From Thursday through Sunday, the weather was fantastic and the offerings even better!

El Jaripeo 2 Grand Opening

Thursday, May 28, 2026, the flavors of Mexico filled ears and stomachs as El Jaripeo 2 held is official Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening at their 110 Hubbard Street location.

As the hosts explained, "The doors are open, the grills are hot, and the margaritas are flowing. We're beyond excited to finally serve the Allegan community with authentic Mexican food, great drinks, and an atmosphere made for celebrating. Come experience your new favorite Mexican restaurant today — bring your friends, family, and appetite."

Not only did El Jaripeo 2 furnish a wonderful Mexican cuisine, the live Mariachi Music created the real atmosphere of Mexico. From the Ribbon Cutting to the entrees and margaritas to sitting back and enjoying the ambiance, El Jaripeo 2's Grand Opening brought customers who had waited almost patiently for the renovations to be complete and the doors to open.

The chefs and wait staff felt the community support and shared, "If you couldn't make it out tonight [Thursday], don't worry! The doors are officially open, and we can't wait to share great food, good music, and even better memories with you all summer long."

Kitten and the Tonics Album Celebration

Kitten and Tonics introduced music from their first album "Get Lost" on Friday, May 29, 2026. The Allegan Eagles Post at 110 Chestnut Street opened their doors to the public so all could enjoy the wonderful music, beverages, and cake.

The Release Party was a fantastic opportunity to enjoy the Kitten and the Tonics trio of Stephanie Redmon (Kitten) on upright bass, Charlie Redmon on lead guitar, and Jacob Truitt on drums. This is the trio that produced "Get Lost". Add to the trio Diego Mor who offered wonderful vocals that at times made you think of Elvis. Also, a jam session at the Eagles would not be complete without a bit of Jack Dailey lending his vocals and guitar.

Kitten and the Tonics have a unique style that has been in demand across the Midwest. Their first EPs (extended plays) – "Painkiller", "Alarmium", and "Cat Fight" were well received which led the group to move forward with "Get Lost" that highlights their "new" vintage sound produced using vintage analog equipment.

As the House of Tabu explained, "This extended play record features four new and exciting tracks, which take listeners on a journey of Kitten Redmon's upright bass interwoven with Charley Redmon's wild take on surf guitar, backed by Jacob Truitt's tempo-steady backbeat."

If you missed Kitten and the Tonics at the Allegan Eagles, you can catch them on June 5th at The Groovin' Grove in South Haven or on June 12th at Wally's in Saugatuck.

Eccentric Garden turns three

Saturday, May 30, 2026, Eccentric Garden kept the festivities going with its Third Birthday Bash at their 136 Brady Street store. Customers found wonderful plants plus other artisan and craft items. For those who made a purchase, an entry ticket was added to the Plant-Away Basket that held a 36 inch moss pole, Massive Philodendron Green Congo Nuclear, Super Boost plant food, and a bag of their soil mix, with all wrapped in a 14-inch pot with saucer.

"At the end of the day, I just felt so overjoyed by the support of the amazing community we have built in Allegan," reflected Lacey Schmitt, owner of Eccentric Garden.

Eccentric Garden will have a busy summer with Bridgefest, Sidewalk Sales, and the weekly concerts on the Riverfront. Schmitt shared that she will continue to hold Plant Bingo during the summer months.

Oakwood Cemetery Living History Tour

On the evenings of Friday, May 29th and Saturday, May 30th, attention was given to the wonderfully unique residents of Oakwood Cemetery. The Friends of Oakwood Cemetery held their 13th Annual Oakwood Cemetery Living History Tour. Five very fine residents of Allegan were brought to life to tell their stories. The theme for this year's production was "Immigrants", and those portrayed enhanced the Allegan of their times.

Thelma Kasprzyk was the most recent member of the group. Thelma was born April 2, 1933, in Huddersfield, England and immigrated to the United States where she met and married Tadeusz (Ted) Kasprzyk, also an immigrant, in 1952. Though they originally lived in Chicago, after spending weekends in Allegan, they decided to move to Allegan where Ted opened Ted's Auto Body. Thelma passed on April 10, 2017, at the age of 84. Emma Brookhouse did a wonderful portrayal of Thelma using the script written by Amanda Strickfaden.

Althea Cook was the next immigrant introduced. In December 1842, Althea was the eighth child born to Mannes and Diena Kok in the Netherlands. The family emigrated to the United States through New York City in 1851 and moved to Overisel, Michigan. Althea married Henry Cook in 1860. They raised four children before Althea died on May 2, 1928. Anne Hodge did a regal portrayal of Althea using the script she had written.

A walk through the cemetery found Charles Lelsle. Lelsle was born on May 19, 1830, in Paris, France, and at age of four, moved to his grandparents' in Edinburgh, Scotland. Charles apprenticed as a baker. When he came to the United States at the age of 27, he enlisted in the 9th Ohio Light Artillery during the Civil War and ended up feeding the soldiers. In 1865, he married Camilla Barnes, and they settled in Allegan where he owned a bakery. He died on October 9, 1896. Xavier Lelsle did a marvelous job sharing Lelsle's story that was written by Amanda Strickfaden.

Kitten and the Tonics celebrated the release of their first album, "Get Lost", at the Allegan Eagles on Fri., May 29th. The trio invited vocalist Diego Mor to join some sets and Jack Dailey to add some of his fine guitar and vocals. Pictured: Stephanie "Kitten" Redmon on upright bass, Diego Mor at the mic, Jacob Truitt on drums, and Charlie Redmon on lead guitar. Photo: G. Voss

Engelbert Born was born on April 17, 1833, in Lindenholzhausen, Germany. At the age of 16, he immigrated to the United States through New Orleans. He settled in Chicago where he learned to make wagons. After working for N.B. West of Allegan, he started his own wagon making business. He married Mary Dickinson in 1855, and they had six children. After Mary passed, Engelbert married Margaret Waddell in 1880. Because of fires, Born had to rebuild his business several times. He died on October 21, 1909, at the age of 76. German accent and all, Spike Kunetz did a marvelous portrayal of Engelbert Born using the script he wrote.

James Caskey was born on January 7, 1822, in Glasgow, Scotland and immigrated through New York City in 1832. Caskey married Lucy Moon in New York in 1842. When the Caskeys moved to Allegan, he started a tannery on the north side of Allegan. Caskey shared much of the successes of his 10 children of whom he was very proud. Two ended up on Mackinaw Island and were known for their workmanship on the Grand Hotel. Caskey died on April 21, 1904, in Harbor Springs where several of his children had settled. Parker Johnson portrayed Caskey in his later years as he shared the story written by Amanda Strickfaden.

The Friends of Oakwood Cemetery wanted to thank the sponsors Tibbitts Financial Consulting, Allegan Area Arts Council, Waanders Concrete Co., Allegan Eye Care, Sherwood's Cove, the Lyons International, Ric & Stan's Car Wash, Gorden Funeral Residence, Hartman & Ellis Agency, Bartz & Rummery Agency, Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, and Allegan U-Stor. A special thank you goes to the City of Allegan for ticket sales, the Allegan Masonic Lodge for chairs, and the actors, actresses, tour guides and ladies in mourning whose performances made the evenings special. Finally, thanks to all who came to enjoy the stories of the men and women of Allegan's past.

The weekend just chugged into Sunday when the first Allegan Antique Fair of the season rolled onto the Allegan County Fairgrounds. The grounds were packed from north to south and east to west with vendors in tents, open areas, the Pavilion, and the Industrial Buildings. Everything from antiques to tools to toys to memorabilia and more could be found by the discerning shopper.

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Time to Abolish MEDC

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

For decades, politicians from both parties have defended the Michigan Economic Development Corporation with the same promise: targeted incentives and subsidies will attract jobs, revive communities, and create prosperity. It sounds appealing. If government can selectively help businesses expand, why not use that power to strengthen the state's economy?

The problem is that after years of experiments and billions in incentives, taxpayers should ask a simple question: why are we still relying on this model?

Consider the Fay Beydoun case. Beydoun, who served on MEDC's executive committee, was connected to a $20 million state grant for Global Link International that was administered through the state's economic development apparatus. Investigators later alleged that grant funds intended for economic development were diverted to personal expenses and unrelated spending. Prosecutors have alleged forged documentation, improper expenditures, and false reporting, while the attorney general described the process as one with minimal oversight and unusual political connections.

Then there is the Clare Complete Health Park project. A project that many of our readers in Mid-Michigan are very familiar with. A $25 million earmark for a health and recreation complex was awarded to a nonprofit created shortly before funding was approved. State officials later suspended payments after identifying red flags, including allegations involving self-dealing and undisclosed financial relationships. The founder, Clare native Dave Coker now faces felony charges related to the handling of grant money.

These examples involve different people, different regions, and different political circles. One grew from Detroit-area business networks; another emerged from legislative relationships in rural Michigan. Yet they raise the same question: why does Michigan continue relying on systems where politically connected projects can receive tens of millions of taxpayer dollars before basic warning signs are detected?

The issue is larger than any individual scandal. It is whether government should continue operating an economic development model that concentrates public money, discretion, and influence in ways that can reward access rather than results.

The MEDC represents a philosophy of economic development that assumes government officials can identify tomorrow's winners and steer public money toward them. But economies rarely work that way. Growth is usually driven by entrepreneurs, workers, small businesses, and market demand—not by state agencies deciding which companies deserve special treatment.

Programs built around tax credits, grants, and incentives create an uneven playing field. Large corporations with lobbyists and political connections often have advantages in navigating these systems, while small businesses operating on Main Streets across Michigan receive little benefit. The local manufacturer with twenty employees does not have a team of consultants pursuing state incentives. The family-owned restaurant, contractor, or startup often pays taxes that help fund benefits awarded elsewhere.

There is also a fairness question. Government should create rules that apply equally to everyone, not distribute selective advantages. When one company receives subsidies, every other business effectively competes against a rival backed by public resources.

Supporters argue that without these incentives, Michigan would lose jobs to other states. But that raises a larger issue: if every state competes by offering bigger subsidies, taxpayers end up financing a race where corporations hold the leverage and governments write the checks. The result is often less like economic development and more like a bidding war.

Imagine redirecting that energy and money toward broad improvements that benefit everyone: lower taxes, better roads, stronger schools, workforce development, and streamlined regulations. Those investments do not depend on predicting which companies will succeed. They create conditions where all businesses can grow.

Abolishing MEDC would not mean abandoning economic development. It would mean redefining it. Government's role should be to build a stable foundation, not pick winners and losers.

Michigan's future economy will not be engineered from conference rooms and incentive packages. It will be built by people taking risks, creating businesses, hiring workers, and investing in their communities.

The state should trust them to do it.

Consider the Fay Beydoun case. Beydoun, who served on MEDC's executive committee, was connected to a $20 million state grant for Global Link International that was administered through the state's economic development apparatus. Investigators later alleged that grant funds intended for economic development were diverted to personal expenses and unrelated spending. Prosecutors have alleged forged documentation, improper expenditures, and false reporting, while the attorney general described the process as one with minimal oversight and unusual political connections.

Then there is the Clare Complete Health Park project. A $25 million earmark for a health and recreation complex was awarded to a nonprofit created shortly before funding was approved. State officials later suspended payments after identifying red flags, including allegations involving self-dealing and undisclosed financial relationships. The founder now faces felony charges related to the handling of grant money, and investigators recovered millions of dollars in unused taxpayer funds.

These examples involve different people, different regions, and different political circles. One grew from Detroit-area business networks; another emerged from legislative relationships in rural Michigan. Yet they raise the same question: why does Michigan continue relying on systems where politically connected projects can receive tens of millions of taxpayer dollars before basic warning signs are detected?

The issue is larger than any individual scandal. It is whether government should continue operating an economic development model that concentrates public money, discretion, and influence in ways that can reward access rather than results.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

I always find it a bit amusing when someone, especially one of the talking heads from almost any news station has a hissy fit about what they call 'revisionist history.' They change their tone of voice to make it sound like something salacious, wicked, and morally wrong. Of course, in today's cultural climate, politics seems to work its way into this discussion. Those two words, revisionist history' have an odious smell about them, and always a bad reputation.

The truth of the matter is you and I do it all the time. So did our parents. With each retelling of their history, they might pad their high school or college test score a little or create a fib as to why they did not get into their first choice of school or their first job. My aunts all re-invented their weight; one went so far as to shave a few years off her age by having the wrong birth year carved into her tombstone. When it came to money and their investments, or their athletic ability in their youth, the uncles told the same, sometimes expanded stories so many times, after a while they came to believe them.

Long story short, we all do it to a greater or lesser extent, the better to position is in the world. Most of us don't think there is any great harm or wickedness in it. We just do not want to get caught.

We are not the only ones doing it. Fiction writers, playwrights, and the movies all engage in the same fabrications. It is best summed up in one of the last scenes in the "Man Who Shot Liberty Valance." An older Jimmy Stewart is telling a news reporter about the end of Valance, the town bully. Everyone thought he had shot the bad guy, but the truth was John Wayne pulled the trigger. In turn, Stewart used the favorable notoriety to propel himself up the political ranks until he was elected the Vice President.

When Stewart was finished talking, the reporter folded up his notebook and said, "When the story is better than the truth, print the story." The movies have been creating an image rather than telling the truth since Thomas Edison hired Bronco Billy Anderson to star in the 1903 film, The Great Train Robbery.

According to the movies, every man in the Old West is carrying a pistol. That was far from the truth. Most of the young men who participated in the cattle drives could never afford a pistol and the bullets. Farmers didn't want them; they preferred a shotgun. There are only two show-downs on Main Street. One was with Wild Bill Hickok, and the other at the OK Corral.

Or, there are the exciting scenes where the wagon train is under attack, and the wagon master orders them to circle the wagons. Never happened. The very unglamorous truth is that far more people died of disease than anything else.

The same sort of prevarication usually takes place with war movies, gangster films, and many others.

We don't cry 'foul!' when it is a movie. We buy our tickets, pay for over-priced popcorn and watered down pop to be entertained, not take a history lesson.

There is where the problem arises. Next to the Bible, Koran, and Torah, and other religious texts, few things seem to be as sacred as history. That is especially true when it is our national history. Almost instantly, we revert back to whatever we learned in elementary school. That includes fact, myth, legend and complete falsehoods.

For example, we all remember the ditty: "In 1492, Columbus sailed the ocean blue," and how he 'discovered' America. The errors abound: He did not land in America, he did not truly discover anything because the Native Americans were already here, and the only reason he landed on a Caribbean Island was because he was lost. As for a flat earth, people already knew it was round, and European exploration began centuries earlier when the Vikings or Norsemen, landed in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia.

The story about young George Washington being reprimanded by his father for cutting down a cherry tree? Phony. It was a much later written myth to emphasize how he was an honest man.

Later, the Battle of Bunker Hill didn't take place there. It was one hill over, on Breeds Hill. Nor did Colonel Teddy Roosevelt lead the charge up San Juan Hill. He and his Rough Riders were a hill over on Kettle Hill. By the time he led his men over to San Juan Hill, Pershing and his Buffalo Soldiers were already there. The story was changed to fit into the racism of the era.

You get the general idea: A story is told and it gets set into our minds, and before long is understood to be absolute truth. Later, when someone challenges an old belief there is a very good possibility others will be angered. They will reject it and then claim it is nothing but 'revisionist history' which the other political party is using to destroy America.

Revisionist history has also shifted the emphasis on what is included or excluded. For centuries, historians have written about political and military leaders and sometimes included a handful of very wealthy and powerful individuals. For example, countless books have been written about men such as JP Morgan or Thomas Edison. The employees or the people who worked in research and development, The Help' as they known, or on the factory floor were all but forgotten.

More recently, the working stiffs have been included, and rightfully so. Today, historians such as William Manchester and David McCullough, tell the story of the common man or woman, and not just a handful of leading lights.

We need to carefully and explore our history because sometimes mistakes were made, got into print, and were completely wrong. In computer-ese, "Garbage in; garbage out."

For years there was a spooky and very elderly woman who worked in the attic of the museum in Rochester, Minnesota. Her job was to go through the early newspapers, stop at every name and story, put a three-by-five card in her Remington typewriter, and record the information. It was slow going, but at the end of the day she took all of her newly typed cards and put them in a library file drawer.

She started with the drawer on the upper right hand of the cabinet, and when it was full, moved to the drawer immediately to the left. When she got to the end of the top row, she moved down and began on the left drawer and worked right.

That was her system, but I dare anyone to sort out the mess she created.

When the historical society purchased the Stoppel Homestead, they told and retold the stories of their early pioneer years, sometimes using the file cards. More often, they engaged in some creative writing and editing as they told the story. The other night I was rereading some of this history when I realized that Marie (wife of FJ) and Eva (wife of George) are almost completely absent. We know they existed, but there was almost nothing about their contribution to their family and community. In short, a big chunk of local history, left out. One of these days, soon I hope, the project will be revised.

As Abigail Adams wrote to her husband John, right when he, Tom, and Ben were writing the Declaration of Independence, "Don't forget the women!"

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Trump lies to farmers

Editor,

"I think the farmers are going to be very happy"! Trump crowed on his return from China where he had hoped to get help getting unstuck from the Iran tar baby he needlessly poked three months ago.

He didn't get that but what he thought he got was a commitment from China to buy more row crops in the coming year.

Personally, I think it's way beyond time for him to stop screwing the agriculture industry.

Was it not enough for him to send China to Brazil instead of us to buy soybeans because of his ill advised tariff war earlier in the year?

Was it not enough for him to start a Middle East war (something he said he would never do)which increased the costs of fertilizer and fuel for this year's planting?

His own intelligence community didn't believe Iran was "weeks away" from attaining a nuclear bomb.

Tellingly, the Chinese didn't confirm his assertion that they would buy more agricultural products from us this year and it's worth noting that they made a similar pledge in his first term and then didn't follow through.

At this point, anyone involved in farming needs to ask themselves: When has Trump ever lied?

And: Is he lying to me now?

David Ohmart

Important to vote to take back our country

Dear Editor:

President Trump has some prominent supporters in the entertainment industry, including Sylvester Stallone and Micki Minaj, but many more have shunned him.

Taylor Swift, Robert De Niro, Billie Eilish, and Bruce Springsteen are among those condemning Trump, while Elton John, Kenny Loggins, and others have objected to their music being used for Trump rallies or Trump videos. After the president ousted the leadership last year at the Kennedy Center and had his own name placed on the building's facade, numerous artists, including Bela Fleck, Renee Fleming, and Issa Rae, called off scheduled appearances.

We must all vote in upcoming elections to help take our Country back. Voting will stop the present direction our Country is taking and "try" to represent our Country's true destination. We still have a constitution, no matter how the present administration refuses to follow it. We may disagree on policies, but almost everyone wants our representatives to represent us and our Constitution.

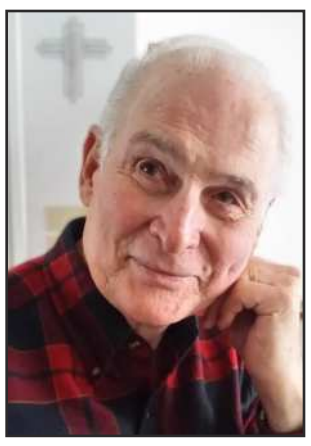
The Courts have just ordered that the Trump name be removed from the Kennedy Center within two weeks. We will wait to see what is going to happen next.

Pat Miner
Allegan, MI

Obituaries

Edward Garvin

Edward Garvin passed away on January 1st of this year following a lengthy convalescence and sudden illness. His family will host a memorial service and celebration of Ed's life on June 13th, 2026, at 11:00AM at the Allegan United Methodist Church, 409 Trowbridge Street in Allegan, Michigan. A light luncheon and refreshments will follow. All are welcome. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations be made to Folds of Honor.



Born and raised in St. John, Kansas, Ed earned his B.S. and master's degrees in chemistry at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. There he also met and married the love of his life, Mary Jane Durkee. Ed and Mary Jane moved to the Detroit area in 1961, where he began a lifelong career in teaching with a love for chemistry, astronomy and physics. After retiring in the 1990's, the Garvin's moved to west Michigan and became active members of the Allegan community where Ed enjoyed many more years of substitute teaching.

Ed was known for his kindness, big smile, hearty laughter and warm hugs. He enjoyed many varied hobbies that included gardening, fine wine, Bridge, motorcycle trips, Abraham Lincoln, astronomy, camping, fishing and more.

The only thing Ed loved more than teaching was his family. Preceded in death by Mary Jane in 2013, he is succeeded by their three children - Kimberley Metcalf-Kupres, Robert Garvin, Kristen Wood and their families.

He is missed greatly and shall be loved always by those who knew him.

Robert A. Johnson Jr

Robert A. Johnson Jr. passed away on January 27, 2026, at the age of 86.

He is survived by his wife of twenty-two years, Liz Johnson of Hendersonville, NC; son, Mike Johnson of Washington DC; daughters, Debbie (Chris) Clancy of Ludington, MI, and Sarah French (Mike Walters) of Kalamazoo, MI; grandchildren Tori Clancy, Molly French, and Erin Clancy; great-grandchild, Robbie Bammert. Bob is proceeded in death by father, Robert A. Johnson Sr.; mother, Helen Johnson; and wife, Martha (Christy) Johnson.

Bob graduated from Otsego High School in 1957, where he played the drums and guitar, was a proud member of the Skunk Patrol with his close friends and was voted Best Dressed—an early sign of the personality, style, and confidence that stayed with him throughout his life. He graduated from Western Michigan University in 1961 which began his career as a high school history teacher in North Muskegon, MI, where he was a favorite among the students and staff. After a few short years of teaching, he was eager to move into the corporate world. He worked in Human Resources at American Motors, JI Case, Clark Equipment, and finally ended his career as the head of Human Resources Department at the Volvo (Construction Equipment) North American Headquarters in Asheville, NC.

Bob believed that the best memories were made intentionally, especially during his beloved two-week summer vacations when his children were younger, which he planned with care and enthusiasm year after year with his wife Sue. Valentine's Day vacations were a favorite surprise, revealed through cleverly written cards filled with clues about where they were going and what to pack. He delighted in creating anticipation and wonder. Later in life, Bob's children were the ones to plan yearly special vacations, which for the past few years were to Highlands, NC. The time spent together with his kids was the most precious gift to Bob.

Family was at the center of Bob's life. He rarely missed a birthday for his grandchildren, happily traveling to Michigan whenever there was something important to celebrate. His home, and especially his pool, was a gathering place full of laughter, where the grandkids loved to play when they visited, and everyone felt welcome.

Every day at precisely 3 o'clock, Bob could be found enjoying his orange cappuccino, a small ritual that brought him comfort and a burst of energy. He also enjoyed his weekly breakfasts with his friend, Fred Mehlin and he cherished the friendships he had with Denny and Pam Miller and Jim Bennett. He was a devoted fan of Michigan football, the Detroit Lions, and especially the Detroit Tigers, following his teams with loyalty and hope that never wavered. Evenings were often spent around the table playing I'll Buy It, a card game enjoyed by everyone, but especially his wife, Liz, and his sister-in-law, Gayle. Those games were filled with laughter, friendly competition, and togetherness.

As he grew older, Bob developed a fondness for antiquing and, with recent movie streaming, rediscovering many of his favorite classic movies. Though he never had pets for much of his life, he eventually found himself completely charmed by his cats, who became unexpected companions he truly loved.

Bob will be remembered for his thoughtfulness, his traditions, his sense of fun, and the deep love he had for his family. His legacy lives on in shared stories, family games, surprise trips, and the countless moments he made special simply by being himself.

A memorial visitation will be held from 4-7 PM, Friday, June 19, 2026, at Winkel Funeral Home in Otsego, Michigan, with a time of sharing starting at 6 PM. Those attending are encouraged to wear something colorful as a reflection of Bob's bright and lively spirit. Private family burial of ashes will take place at Mountain Home Cemetery in Otsego.

Contributions in memory of Bob may be directed to Blue Ridge Humane Society of Hendersonville NC. https://www.blueridgehumane.org/

Messages of condolence may be posted at www.WinkelFuneralHome.com.

Ev´Va Shadow

Ev'Va Lee, aka, Shadow age 74 passed away September 28th, 2025, in Clare Michigan.

Born June 4th, 1951, to Burdett and Helen Belcher.

Ev'Va Lee (Shadow) graduated from Otsego High School in 1969.

She also was a proud graduate of Western Nebraska Community College, Eastern Wyoming College and Denver Metropolitan State University.

Her love of animals took her to many places starting life in Otsego Michigan, then on to Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska. Always with her Horses, dogs, and cats.

She is survived by her daughter Tesha (Cris) Wyatt and her son Rowdy (Bernadette) Applehans. Her grandchildren Micha, Devon, Jemma, and Riley, great grandchildren Alexis, Autumn, and Ethan. Nieces and nephews Trace, Scott, Jeffery (Marjorie), Shay, Noel, and her adopted son John Bowers.

She was preceded in death by her parents Burdett Blecher, Helen (Cole) Belcher, her brother Sonny Belcher, and her sister Delores Youngs Wood.

There will be a Celebration of life on June 6th, 2026 at 1pm, at the River of Life Church, 605 W. Allegan St., Otsego MI. 49078

Roy Lawrence James

Roy Lawrence James, 93, of Allegan, Michigan died in the home he had lived in since its purchase in 1972. In his final days, the house was full as his family and friends gathered in love to support him and each other, sharing tears but also great memories and laughter.

Roy was born on the northern shore of Lake Michigan in the company-owned logging town of Nahma, Michigan to Frank and Sarah Hattie (Sturgis) James on July 21, 1932. When the giant timber ran out and the mills fell silent, the family moved to Allegan when Roy was 9 years old. They settled near Miner Lake where he attended country school, accompanying the teacher each morning to start the fire in the woodstove before classes. He recalled memories of walking to town to enjoy a double feature at the Regent Theatre, raising chickens for 4H, and travelling to Chicago to buy a suit out of the trunk of a car to wear for his Allegan High School graduation.

Roy began his career at Blood Brothers' Universal Joint while still a senior in high school, working the overnight shift and often receiving grace from his teachers as they allowed him to nap through their classes. In 1952, he enlisted in the United States Army, entering service in Detroit, Michigan on September 3, 1952. Roy was stationed in Korea for one year, three months, and fourteen days during the war and his service was meritoriously decorated with the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal w/ two bronze stars, Republic of Korea Unit Citation, and an additional bronze star. His separation from active duty was at Fort Bliss, Texas on September 2, 1955, and final discharge to civilian life on September 2, 1960, after five years in the Michigan Army Reserve. In the Fall of 2025, he flew to Washington D.C. with fellow World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans on a Talons Out Honor Flight and was proclaimed an Ambassador of Peace by the Republic of Korea Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs on November 15 at a celebration at Allegan City Hall.

By the time Roy returned from the army, Blood Brothers had become Rockwell International where he resumed his career and worked until the company halted most of its Allegan operations in 1988. His last months with the company were spent in Fairfield, Iowa training those employees who were to replace him. He was defined as a hard worker, never turning down an extra shift at the plant as well as working a second job at Nyberg Funeral Home. For 16 years in "retirement," Roy drove a van for Allegan County Community Mental Health where he was a favorite among his "Clients." In short, he did whatever he could to provide for those he loved.

Roy was soft-spoken, generous, and kind. He never spoke ill of anyone or anything unless there was cilantro involved. Yet, for a man of so few words, he was remarkably social. He was a member of the American Legion, VFW, Fraternal order of Eagles, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Moose Lodge, and seemingly the Players Club at every casino in Western Michigan and the Upper Peninsula. He was a skilled wood worker, a fiercely competitive Pepper and Marbles player, and looked forward to fishing with brother, Jimmy, and brother-in-law, Mutt, on Big Bay de Noc during summer vacations. In recent years, he took pleasure in riding his scooter around town to inspect the road projects (he was one of the first through Allegan's roundabout), stopping at "Jim's" (as he referred to both Riverside Market and Mighty Midget) for his "scratchers," playing pull-tabs at the club, and trips to the casino with "the girls." He always enjoyed attending sporting and school events, dance recitals, birthday parties, and any reason to gather with others.

In his golden years, Roy met his life partner, Barb Miller. Together they shared 26 years of love and adventure. From the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to Venice, Florida, memories were made and enjoyed with family and friends. To us she was "Grandma Barb" and her family became our family.

Surviving are his children, Diane Stockdale, Betsy (Rich) Wheeler, Richard (Yan Chen) James, Traci (Tim) Perrigo, Mike (Rosalee) Norman, Tim (Holly) Norman, Mark (Kathy) Norman, and Lisa (Jon) Boulter; his sister-in-law, Jacque James; and nineteen grandchildren, many great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Along with his parents, Roy is preceded in death by his siblings, Evelyn Lavigne, Florence Smith, Raymond James, Harold James, and Jimmy James. Also preceding him in death is an infant son.

The United States Army will render military honors and Roy will be enniched on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 10:00 AM at Fort Custer National Cemetery, 15501 Dickman Road, Augusta, Michigan 49012. A Time of Fellowship will follow at the Allegan Fraternal Order of Eagles, 110 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI 49010 beginning at 12:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Elara Caring Hospice Foundation, who's Home Health and Hospice Care provided love and comfort to Roy and his family over the past five years.

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LIVING WITH GRIEF

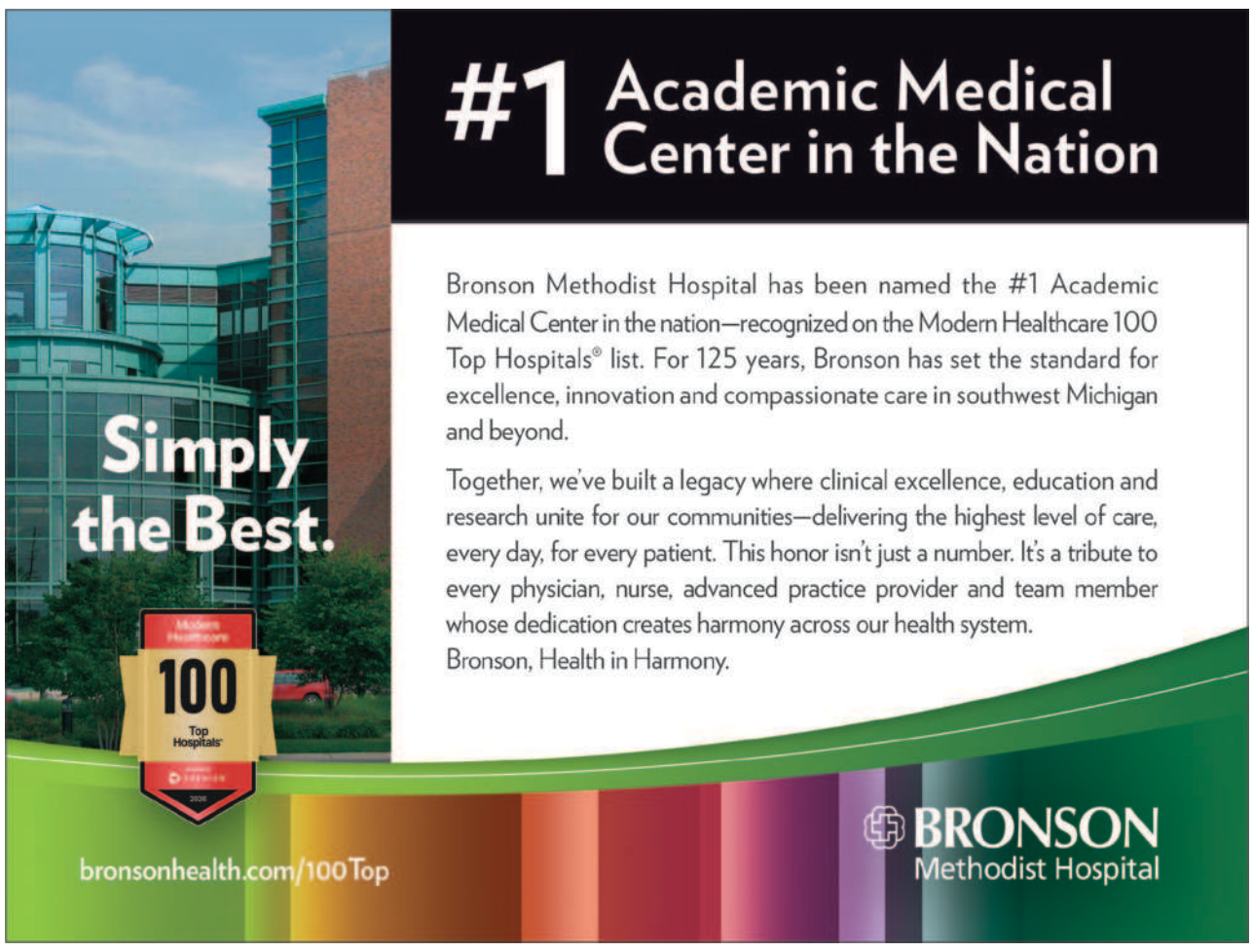
BY RONNIE EWING/ AFTERCARE SPECIALIST

LIVING WITH GRIEF, is a monthly column provided by Gorden Funeral Residence. Each month LIVING WITH GRIEF will feature some helpful advice as you the reader move forward through your personal grieving process, or simply want to be educated to help those whom you may know have recently experienced a loss, or traumatic event.

We just came off a series of support meetings. One dealing with the giving side of support, and the receiving side of support. Both thrive on a known fact that you cannot give what you don't have. Let me explain. The giving side to support comes from maintaining the ability to produce a compassionate and safe place for those who are grieving. And when it comes to the receiving aspect, you have to be able to drop the guard that can and will hold you back from moving forward. Often that is hard because of a small humanistic trait known as "Pride."

Pride has the ability to convince us that we can do it on our own. That it is wrong, to take a hand out. It also convinces us that everyone has an alterier motive. Now don't get me wrong. Independence is a good thing, with balance. A good ethical balance, allows the heart to heal. And walls that have been built for a sense of protection work just like that. They become a fortress of protection and not a reclusive prison. Having the ability to truly care with a pure and genuine motive provides an atmosphere for healing, and the ability to drop the shield can make all the difference in LIVING WITH GRIEF.

Gorden Funeral Residence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Township staff recommends closing compost operations

Public hearing on June 3 to address bad odors from Cocoa Corp., what to do next.

Laketown Township staff is recommending composting operations that have created foul smells in the community be shut down.

The township planning commission will have the final say after a public hearing set for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at the township hall, 4338 Beeline Road.

After the public hearing, the planning commission could consider modifying the agreement, terminating it, or continuing the special land use.

Michelle Sall, Laketown Township Community Development Director, in a report to the planning commission dated May 21, 2026, recommended approval be revoked for the Cocoa Corp. composting operations within the planned unit development managed by Republic Services.

The planned unit development – a PUD – is a special set of agreements that allow a combination of buildings, open space, and activities to occur in an area where zoning might otherwise not allow the use.

Sall cited more than 150 staff hours for collecting and responding to more than 100 complaints of bad odors from March 2025 to present, the multiple efforts by Manager Stephanie Fox to resolve the complaints, and a state Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy violation dated April 27, 2026. The composting activity has not been operated in a manner harmonious to the area, as required by the agreement adopted Dec. 7, 2016, she wrote.

Cocoa Corp., 4368 60th St. between the I-196 and U.S. 31 overpasses, on Friday, May 29, 2026. Photo taken from 60th Street.

Residents have been complaining for the last 2 to 3 years about increased odors from Cocoa Corp., a composting operation on Republic's property, 4368 60th St. between the I-196 and U.S. 31 overpasses.

The township has forwarded those complaints to EGLE.

The public hearing

On June 3, the chairperson of the planning commission will call the public hearing to order and ask anyone in the meeting room to come to the podium, state their name and address and speak into the microphone for up to 3 minutes about the topic. After everyone in the room has spoken, the chairperson will then ask if anyone on Zoom would like to speak.

Those on Zoom should unmute themselves or turn on their video. The chairperson will acknowledge you. State your name and address and speak for up to 3 minutes.

All comments should be addressed to the chairperson.

Email comments may be sent to office@laketowntwp.org, attention planning commission.

Written comments may be sent to Laketown Township Planning Commission, 4338 Beeline Road, Holland, MI 49423.

All correspondence must be received by 4 p.m. June 3 to be considered for the public hearing.

Follow Laketown Township on Facebook, Instagram and Threads.

Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

Recently, President Trump made a settlement with the IRS to drop his multi-billion dollar lawsuit in return for something over one billion dollars to be used as reparations for the January 6th rioters. What are your thoughts?

-Man near the Blue Goose in Fennville: "Makes me sicker than pigging out at an all-you-can eat buffet. He really makes me sick. And don't forget that sweetheart deal that prevents the government from looking at his taxes."

-Woman in front of the Fennville pharmacy: "I heard about it, but that's about it. I got my hands full with enough things already. It sounds sketchy somehow. Maybe they deserve it. I don't know."

-Woman in front of the Fennville hardware store: "It's all political theater. Trump's Maga supporters think it is great; the Dems hate it. My guess is that it's going nowhere because those who hate him will go to court over it."

-Man in front of the Allegan Public Library: "They deserve it. Everyone knows that the far-left liberals and socialists stole the 2020 election. Those fellows were defending the country, and they got beat up and sent to jail for their patriotism. Fair is fair!"

-Man with him: "You're just stirring things up by asking things like that! You ought to be ashamed of yourself!"

-Couple in front of the Huntington Bank; Man: "The whole thing is so corrupt. Trump is as bad as Capone and the Mafia, except he's not holding a Tommy gun. I don't know how this country got into that situation." Woman: "Well, I blame the Congress and Senate. They go along with him. Bunch of cowards! All of them! Not one of them has the courage to stand up to him!"

-Woman, same location: "What I can't understand is how anyone agreed to it. The idea that he and his family and businesses can't ever be investigated for anything. Come off of it. I am so sick of all of them."

-Man in front of Allegan City Hall: "You know what no one's talking about? Try this one. Trump and his cronies keep buying and selling oil stocks and futures. Thousands of those trades. If you and I did something like that we'd be in jail. No wonder he made them agree not to ever investigate his business dealings. He's crooked."

-Woman near the Allegan Post Office: "I don't think he's doing anything wrong. It's the Democrats who keep stirring things up. Biden was just as bad. So were the Clintons. You don't hear anything about them, but everyone attacks our President. He's saving the country from being run over by all those 'illegals', but all people do is complain and agitate against him."

-Couple near Minnie's; Woman: "He's ruthless. I'll say that much about him. Ruthless. Trump is no good, but he knows how to run the system to get what he wants." Man: "All it's going to take is to flip the House and Senate, and he's done for."

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Girl Scout Gold Award project reflects on Flag Day

By Gari Voss

Flag Day is Sunday, June 14, 2026. On this day, everyone is encouraged to reflect on the meaning of the American Flag as a symbol of our nation and the freedoms that have been fought for to keep the flag flying high. This is the anniversary of the official adoption of the American flag on June 14, 1777.

The public will have an opportunity on Saturday, June 13, 2026, to participate in a Flag Code and Conduct Workshop at the Frist Congregational Church, 323 Cutler Street in Allegan, from 11am – 1:30pm.

This Girl Scout Gold Award Project is open to all ages. All can attend this free event to take the U.S. flag protocol training on flag fundamentals, flag handling principles, proper display practices, and the key honored veterans days of service.

"To celebrate Flag Day, come and learn from local veterans about the U.S. flag code, flag handling procedures, days for veterans, and more!" encouraged Elise Wedge, host of this event. "Participate in a short service project during the event. This is in conjunction with my local Girl Scout Gold Award project: Honoring America's Flag. My project goal is to install a U.S. flag retirement site in Hopkins, MI and encourage respect in what the U.S. flag stands for. Community members of all ages are invited!"

The "Stars and Stripes" was adopted by the Continental Congress as the official American flag during the Revolutionary War. Before its adoption, the colonial troops fought under flags with symbols like rattlesnakes, pine trees and eagles. The flags often contained slogans like "Don't Tread on Me", "Liberty or Death", and "Conquer or Die".

The Flag Resolution of 1777 states, ""The flag of the United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, with a union of thirteen stars of white on a blue field …"

It was not until May 30, 1916, that President Woodrow Wilson made this day an official observance with a presidential proclamation.

There is much folklore surrounding the first flag. Though Betsy Ross made many ensigns and pennants for the Philadelphia Navy, there is no definite proof that she sewed the first flag.

It is known that the original flag was to represent the original 13 colonies, thus the 13 strips alternating red and white, and 13 stars arranged in a circle on a blue field to represent that each colony was equal. In 1818, after some design changes, the decision was made to retain the 13 strips while adding a new star to reflect each new state that joined the union. This required a new configuration of stars.

The colors remained consistent: white for purity and innocence, red for valor and hardiness, and blue for vigilance, perseverance, and justice. Though the colonists wanted to remove themselves from British rule, the colors can also be found on the British flag.

Miss Wedge will complete this project by erecting a collection bos for used flas which will later be disposed of properly.

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Grads ■ *from Page A1*

Band

Grant Comer

Parents: Heather and Tom Comer

College/Major: Alma College, Business Administration and Coaching

Activities: Varsity Football Captain, Varsity Golf, Student Athletic Leadership Team Co-President, Student Senate Vice President, NHS Treasurer, MASC/MAHS Michigan Board of Delegates Representative, Big Brother Big Sister Mentor

Honors/Awards: Top Honors, AP Scholar, Alma College Distinguished Presidential Scholarship

Lillie Cross

Parents: Mary and Jamie Cross

College/Major: Grand Valley State University, Finance and Business

Activities: National Honor Society, Volleyball, Red Cross Club, PALs

Elise Fontaine

Parents: Anna and Dru Fontaine

College/Major: Michigan State University, Environmental Biology

Activities: Varsity Tennis, Red Cross Club, NHS, Tae Kwon Do

Honors/Awards: Honor Roll, Art Hop Award, Digital Photography Award, PALs Nominee, Top Honors

Autumn Gravelyn

Parents: Tara and Luke Gravelyn

College/Major: Michigan State University, Political Science and Pre-Law

Activities: Varsity Volleyball, Varsity Tennis, NHS, Student Senate, Multicultural Club

Honors/Awards: Top Honors, First Team All-Conference (volleyball, twice), First Team All-Region (twice), Academic All-State (three times), 2,000-plus career assists

Anna Hall

Parents: Rex and Shelley Hall

College/Major: Kalamazoo College, Biology

Activities: NHS, Tennis, PALs

Andrew Hampton

Parents: Tom and Krista Hampton

College/Major: Kalamazoo College, Biology

Activities: Baseball, Tennis

Honors/Awards: Baseball – First Team All-State, All-Region, All-District, First Team All-Conference, Second Team All-Conference, Honorable Mention All-Conference, Academic All-Region, Academic All-District. Tennis – Honorable Mention All-Conference. Hockey – Honorable Mention All-Conference. Student of the Month. Honor Roll.

Payton Hanselman

Parents: William Steimel and Catherine Hanselman

College/Major: Wayland Carpenter & Millwright Apprentice Training Center

Activities: National Honor Society

Honors/Awards: Top Honors

Shea Hodapp

Parents: Pat and Sarah Hodapp

College/Major: Michigan State University, Environmental Science and Sustainability

Activities: Red Cross Club, National Honor Society, Varsity Soccer

Honors/Awards: AP Scholar, All-Conference Second Team, Top Honors

Joseph Hoffman

Parents: Jennifer and Nathan Hoffman

College/Major: University of Michigan, Engineering

Activities: Swim (Captain), Cross Country, The Trojan Table (Founder), Volunteer work at school facilities

Honors/Awards: Student of the Month, Honor Roll, Honors Diploma, Top Honors, AP Scholar with Honor

Ava Klann

Parents: Malisa Klann and Doug Klann

College/Major: Michigan State University, Business

Activities: Musical, Jazz Band, National Honor Society, Tri-M Music Honor Society

Honors/Awards: AP Scholar Award, AP Scholar with Distinction, KACS Outstanding Chemistry Student Award, Top Honors

Ella LaPenna

Parents: Jill and Nick LaPenna

College/Major: Kalamazoo College, Biology and Optometry

Activities: Varsity Competitive Cheer (4 years), Varsity Track (4 years), Cheer Leadership Council, NHS Co-Vice President, Student Senate Secretary, SALT Co-President and Social Media Manager, PALs, Red Cross Club Officer, UMatter Club

Honors/Awards: Top Honors

Benjamin Lynes

Parents: Christine and Kyle Lynes

College/Major: University of Michigan, Electrical Engineering

Activities: NHS, Red Cross Club

Aiden Mallory

Parents: James and Linsey Mallory

College/Major: Michigan Technological University, Biomedical Engineering

Activities: NHS, VEX Robotics, Choir, Cross Country, Track, Scouts

Honors/Awards: Eagle Scout, Top Honors, Four-time State Qualifier in VEX Robotics

Daniel Mansheim

Parents: Tom and Lisa Mansheim

College/Major: Purdue University, Civil Engineering

Activities: Comic Book Club, Operations Department employee, Fitness/Gym

Honors/Awards: AP Scholar with Honor, VFW Outstanding Spokesperson for Freedom, National Merit Letter of Commendation, Top Honors

Lauren Marlett

Parents: Analinda Rees

College/Major: Northern Michigan University, English

Activities: Jazz Band, Marching Band, Tennis, Volleyball, Winter Guard

Honors/Awards: National Honor Society, Coaches Award (Volleyball), Honor Roll

Samantha McDaniel

Parents: Gwen and Chad McDaniel

College/Major: Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Dental Hygiene

Activities: Student Senate, SALT, NHS

Honors/Awards: Top Honors

Madison Nieuwenhuis

Parents: Robert and Rebecca Nieuwenhuis

College/Major: University of Iowa, Sports Recreation and Management

Activities: Wrestling, NHS, Red Cross Club, Class of 2026 Officer

Honors/Awards: Honors Diploma, Top Honors, Academic All-State, Tricia Saunders Award

Brooke Pazderka

Parents: Thuy and Phil Pazderka

College/Major: Michigan State University, Biology

Activities: Sideline Cheer, Competitive Cheer, Tennis, Red Cross Club, NHS

Sophia Petersen

Parents: Jason and Stephanie Petersen

College/Major: Michigan State University, Veterinary Nursing

Activities: National Honor Society, Varsity Soccer, Red Cross Club

Honors/Awards: NHS Hours Leader (Junior Year), Honor Roll, Student of the Month, Top Honors

Claire Pipkorn

Parents: Rebecca and David Pipkorn

College/Major: University of Alabama, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Activities: Tennis, Red Cross Club, Quiz Bowl, NHS, PALs

Honors/Awards: National Merit Commended Scholar, AP Scholar

Delainey Poel

Parents: Jamie and Marc Poel

College/Major: Grand Valley State University, Social Work

Activities: NHS, Red Cross Club, Track and Field

Emerson Rentfrow

Parents: Stefanie and Todd Rentfrow

College/Major: Michigan State University, Cardiology

Activities: Plainwell Cheer, NHS

Honors/Awards: National Honor Society, Honor Roll, Top Honors

Anna Schierbeek

Parents: Susie and Todd Schierbeek

College/Major: University of Michigan, Biology, Health and Society

Activities: Soccer, Basketball, PALs, Red Cross Club, Camp Counselor

Honors/Awards: Second Team All-Conference (Soccer), Team First Award (Basketball), Outstanding Senior Student-Athlete Award, Top Honors

Jack Sherer

Parents: Ginny and Ron Sherer

College/Major: Michigan State University, International Relations

Activities: Cross Country, Track and Field, Quiz Bowl, Comic Book Club

Honors/Awards: Top Honors

Ava Stanton

Parents: Kara Courtney

College/Major: Michigan State University, Psychology

Activities: Sideline and Competitive Cheer, Tennis, Red Cross Club, National Honor Society, French Club, NAMI

Honors/Awards: AP Scholar with Honor, Individual Academic All-State, Top Honors

Gwen Todd

Parents: Bryan and Leslie Todd

College/Major: Hope College

Activities: Cross Country, Track and Field, Quiz Bowl, NHS, Student Athletic Leadership Team (SALT)

Honors/Awards: Wolverine Conference Scholar-Athlete Award, Honor Roll, Student of the Month, Honors Diploma, Top Honors

Brooklyn Wagenaar

Parents: Sara and Scott Wagenaar

College/Major: Michigan State University, Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy

Activities: NHS Chairperson, Red Cross Club, Sideline and Competitive Cheer Captain, Competitive Dance Captain, Student Senate President, Multicultural Club Leadership Team, Christmas Project Student Ambassador

Honors/Awards: NHS Leadership Award (twice), NHS Service Award, AP Scholar Award

Alyssa Weldon

Parents: Seth and Carrie Weldon

College/Major: University of Michigan, Kinesiology

Activities: Varsity Basketball, Varsity Soccer, NHS, Red Cross Club, PALs, SPCA Volunteer

Honors/Awards: Second Team All-Conference (Basketball), Second Team All-Conference (Soccer), Honorable Mention (Soccer), Outstanding Senior Award, AP Scholar, Top Honors

Teagen Wilson

Parents: Laura and Erik Wilson

College/Major: Indiana University, Finance and Real Estate

Activities: Varsity Tennis, Varsity Golf, Varsity Soccer, Student Athletic Leadership Team, National Honor Society Officer

Honors/Awards: Top Honors

Community support fuels successful Christian Neighbors fundraiser

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

More than 200 people gathered Thursday, May 14, to support Christian Neighbors' mission of assisting local individuals and families.

Through its 17th annual Reflection of Hope Dinner and Auction, the organization raised more than $93,000.

According to officials from Christian Neighbors, the event was the organization's largest fundraiser of the year and drew support from community members, local businesses, sponsors, volunteers and donors.

Funds raised through the event will help Christian Neighbors continue providing food assistance, rent and utility support, educational opportunities and other resources designed to help individuals and families achieve long-term stability.

"We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the amazing support shown by our community," Christian Neighbors officials said. "From our generous sponsors, dedicated volunteers, donors, attendees, and everyone who helped behind the scenes, thank you for coming together to support our mission in such a meaningful way.

"(This) was a beautiful reminder of what can happen when a community shows up with compassion, generosity and hope."

Christian Neighbors serves residents in the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin school districts, offering a variety of programs aimed at helping people meet immediate needs while also working toward long-term self-sufficiency.

Officials said the success of this year's fundraiser will allow the organization to continue providing "a safe and welcoming place for individuals and families seeking food assistance, rent and utility support, education opportunities, and resources that help create long-term stability."

Organization officials made it clear that the success of the Dinner and Auction was a group effort.

"Together, we are building hope, stability, and stronger neighbors," officials said. "Thank you for believing in our mission and standing beside us."

Plainwell set to consider adopting maintenance code

By John Raffel
Corespondent

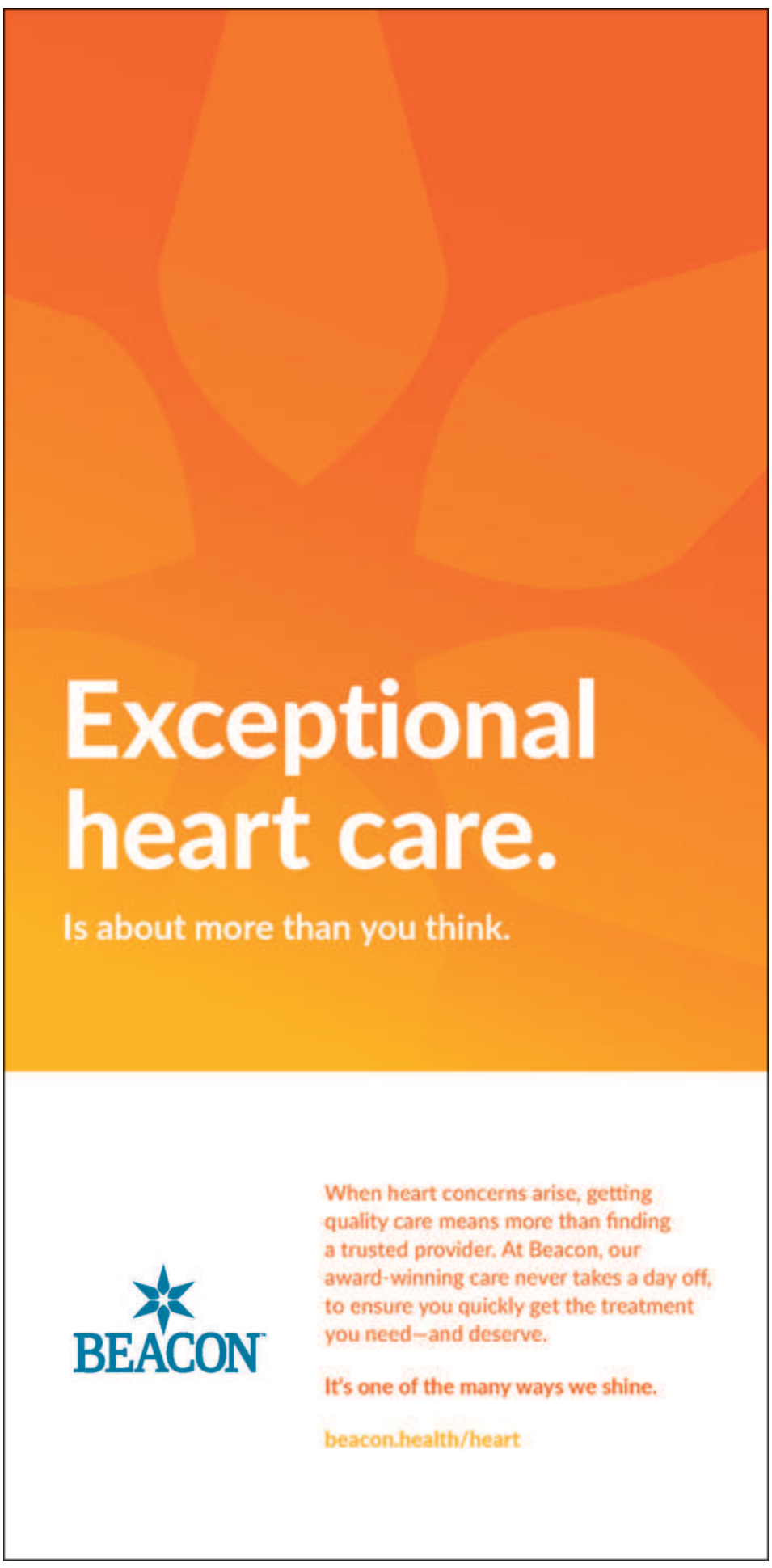
The Plainwell City council was set to adopt doing a recent meeting a Property Maintenance Code (IPMC).

It was noted to the council that Plainwell has long struggled to enforce blight and nuisance ordinances. The current ordinances are outdated and do not contemplate modern issues with blight enforcement. The City sought out best practices for blight enforcement management, leading to the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC).

IPMC, the council was told, is the industry standard for blight enforcement and is widely used across the Country to ensure that properties are maintained in an acceptable manner.

Due to its widespread, it is battle tested in the courts. One of the biggest issues with code enforcement is the quality of an ordinance. If it is outdated or written poorly, courts often will throw citations out, which has happened to Plainwell the council was told.

City officials believe that this ordinance will help address problem properties and allow for a standard of compliance within the community. If passed, Plainwell would be adopting the 2024 IPMC by reference, meaning the code will continue to be current as the IMPC is updated.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Cook, Robbins lead Bulldogs to runner-up finish in D2

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HAMILTON0—The Otsego boys track and field team saved its best performance for the biggest stage.

Behind a pair of individual state championships and two all-state relay performances, the Bulldogs scored 39 points to finish second at the Division 2 state finals Saturday.

The Otsego boys track & field team took home the runner-up trophy at the D2 State Finals. (Photo provided)

Harper Woods claimed the team title with 47 points, while Otsego finished ahead of third-place Saginaw Swan Valley (35).

Several other area schools also were represented at the state finals. Wayland tied for 19th place with 10 points, Hamilton tied for 38th with six points and Hopkins tied for 53rd with four points. Allegan and Plainwell also had athletes compete at the meet.

Otsego's charge was led by junior Jack Cook and senior Alex Robbins, who each earned individual state championships.

Cook captured the state title in the 200-meter dash, crossing the finish line in a personal-best 21.24 seconds.

The championship marked a rewarding turnaround for Cook, who narrowly missed qualifying for the state finals in the event as a sophomore despite posting strong times throughout the season.

Cook also helped the Bulldogs earn all-state honors in a pair of relays.

He anchored Otsego's 4x200 relay team of Ezekiel Andrina, Roman Mitchell and Sam Cook to a third-place finish in 1:28.81. He also ran the anchor leg on the Bulldogs' third-place 4x400 relay team that included Andrina, Kaleb Koestner and Ty Oaks. That quartet posted a time of 3:23.74.

Robbins earned his state title in the discus, unleashing a throw of 172 feet, 9 inches. He also scored team points in the shot put, placing sixth with a toss of 54-4.25.

Oaks added four points to the Bulldogs' team total with a fifth-place finish in the 400-meter dash. The senior clocked a personal-best time of 49.42 seconds.

Other Otsego competitors included Kenny Sheffer, who placed 11th in the 3,200-meter run (9:43.68), Carson Brooks, who tied for 11th in the pole vault (13-4), and Ethan Simpson, who finished 20th in the long jump (20-9.75).

Wayland's top finish came from its 4x200 relay team, which placed fourth in 1:28.84. The quartet consisted of Henry Maass, Brock Wheeler, Luke Vande-Zande and Jake Reeder.

Reeder also earned all-state honors individually, placing sixth in the 200-meter dash with a personal-best time of 21.73 seconds. Teammate Justin Springs added a seventh-place finish in the long jump at 21-8.5.

Hamilton's Hudson Hulst earned all-state honors with a third-place finish in the 110-meter hurdles. The senior posted a personal-best time of 14.48 seconds.

Hopkins also produced an all-state performance, as Clayton Kerber placed fifth in the 300-meter hurdles with a personal-best time of 38.97 seconds. Teammate Jack Estelle narrowly missed all-state honors, finishing ninth in the 1,600-meter run with a personal-best time of 4:20.58.

Allegan was represented by Kellen Chalupa, who finished 18th in the 800-meter run in 2:01.45.

Plainwell's Sawyer Lilly placed 16th in the shot put with a throw of 49-7.5, while teammate Loehn Luckett finished 30th in the pole vault at 11-8.

Allegan tennis places third at finals to cap historic season

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

MIDLAND—An historic season ended with another historic accomplishment for the Allegan girls tennis team.

The Tigers finished third at the Division 4 state finals in Midland on May 27-28, completing a 22-0 season that included conference, regional and Valley Division championships while producing the program's highest state-finals finish since placing runner-up in 2013.

Allegan scored 18 points, trailing only Greenhills and Lansing Catholic.

According to Allegan coach Damien Arthur, the accomplishments went beyond championships and records.

"More than the wins, records and championships, this team represented Allegan with toughness, pride and commitment," Arthur said. "They competed for each other, handled pressure with maturity and made our school and community proud."

The state-finals appearance also marked the Tigers' second consecutive top-10 finish at the state meet, further solidifying this group as one of the most accomplished teams in program history.

The Tigers advanced two flights to the state finals, with the No. 1 doubles team of Ireland Dewey and Madison Cook and the No. 3 doubles team of Sophia Augustine and Emma Scheffler both finishing as state runners-up.

Dewey and Cook opened the tournament with a bye before defeating St. Francis 6-4, 6-1 and Bullock Creek 6-2, 6-3 to reach the semifinals. They then knocked off North-Pointe Christian 6-2, 6-3 before falling to top-seeded Greenhills 1-6, 3-6 in the championship match.

Augustine and Scheffler entered the tournament as the top seed at No. 3 doubles and advanced to the finals with victories over Everest Collegiate (6-4, 6-3), Saginaw Nouvel (6-3, 6-3) and Lansing Catholic (5-7, 6-4, 6-2). Their run ended in the title match against second-seeded Greenhills, which earned a 5-7, 6-1 victory.

Allegan also received a semifinal appearance from Ava Thompson at No. 4 singles and the No. 2 doubles team of Taylor Fuller and Hanna Kievit.

At No. 4 doubles, Kaylee Haas and Hailey Gauthier reached the quarterfinals before dropping a hard-fought three-set match to sixth-seeded Kalamazoo Christian.

Addy Fales advanced to the quarterfinals at No. 1 singles, while Camdyn Drozd at No. 2 singles and Kendall Halstead at No. 3 singles each competed at the state finals as well.

"This State Finals performance was the final chapter of one of the best seasons in program history," Arthur said.

The Allegan girls tennis team had its highest finish at the State Finals since 2013, when the Tigers were runner-up. (Photo provided)

DeGraaf lifts Saugatuck girls to fourth

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

KENT CITY — Novella DeGraaf spent much of Saturday, May 30, racing from one event to another.

By the end of the day, the Saugatuck junior had collected three All-State finishes, broken three school records and helped lead the Trailblazers to a fourth-place finish at the Division 3 state finals.

The Trailblazers scored 30 points to place fourth, marking just the sixth top-10 finish in program history.

Olivet won the girls title with 82 points, followed by Lansing Catholic (76) and Pewamo-Westphalia (61.5).

The Saugatuck girls track team was all smiles after placing fourth at the D3 State Finals. (Photo provided)

DeGraaf's performance represented one of the finest individual efforts in Saugatuck track and field history.

Competing in three events throughout the day, DeGraaf earned All-State honors in each while establishing new school records across the board.

She finished runner-up in the pole vault by clearing 10 feet, 9 inches, placed third in the long jump at 17-2 and added another third-place finish in the 100-meter hurdles with a school-record time of 14.83 seconds.

Senior Alina Martinson also delivered a strong performance for the Trailblazers.

Competing out of the slower heat of the 400-meter dash, Martinson ran a personal-best time of 59.44 seconds to place fifth overall and earn All-State honors.

Martinson later helped the Trailblazers add to their point total as a member of the All-State 4x800 relay team.

The quartet of Kamryn Sixberry, Ellyse Heyser, Lyvia Curtis and Martinson placed third in 9:51.40 to earn All-State recognition and contribute six points to Saugatuck's fourth-place team finish.

The Saugatuck boys were led by freshman Charles Robison, who earned All-State honors with a third-place finish in the 300-meter hurdles.

Robison crossed the finish line in a personal-best 39.57 seconds, establishing a new freshman school record. According to coach Rick Bauer, the mark also ranks as the third-fastest time in program history behind only former standouts Benny Diaz and current Major League Baseball player Blake Dunn.

Robison's performance accounted for all six of Saugatuck's team points as the Trailblazers tied for 37th place in the boys standings.

Fennville also was represented at the Division 3 state finals.

Junior Isabelle Sliter placed 21st in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 5:54.01 and finished 22nd in the 3,200-meter run in 13:20.66.

On the boys side, freshman Julian Weimer placed 15th in the long jump with a leap of 19 feet, 11.75 inches.

Conley shines for Martin at D4 finals

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HUDSONVILLE—Veyda Conley closed out another standout track season in impressive fashion Saturday, May 30.

The Martin junior earned a pair of all-state finishes, placing third in both the 1,600-meter run and 3,200-meter run at the Division 4 State Finals. That accounted for all 12 of the Clippers' points as the team tied for 17th place in the final standings.

Conley turned in a personal-best time of 5:14.94 in the 1,600 before coming back later in the day to place third in the 3,200 with a time of 11:41.06.

She also qualified for the 800-meter run, but scratched that in order to focus on the 1,600, 3,200 and the 4x800 relay.

In the 4x800 relay, Conley joined Torryn Harris, Allison Rodgers and Sara Schipper placed 11th in 10:34.33.

The Clippers also received a strong performance from sophomore Aliyah DeGlopper, who placed ninth in the shot put with a personal-best throw of 33 feet, 11 inches.

On the boys side, freshman Seth Smit earned Martin's lone point of the meet by placing eighth in the long jump.

Smit recorded a personal-best leap of 21-2 to earn all-state honors.

The Martin boys tied for 58th place in the team standings with one point.

B&C Trophy and Apparel, Inc. ATHLETE of the WEEK

Alex Robbins and Jack Cook
Otsego
Boys Track

The Otsego boys track & field team placed second at the Division 2 State Finals on Saturday, May 30.

Junior Jack Cook and senior Alex Robbins were two big reasons for that.

Cook won the 200-meter dash and anchored the 4x200 and 4x400 teams to third-place finishes.

Robbins, meanwhile, won the title in discus and placed sixth in shot put.

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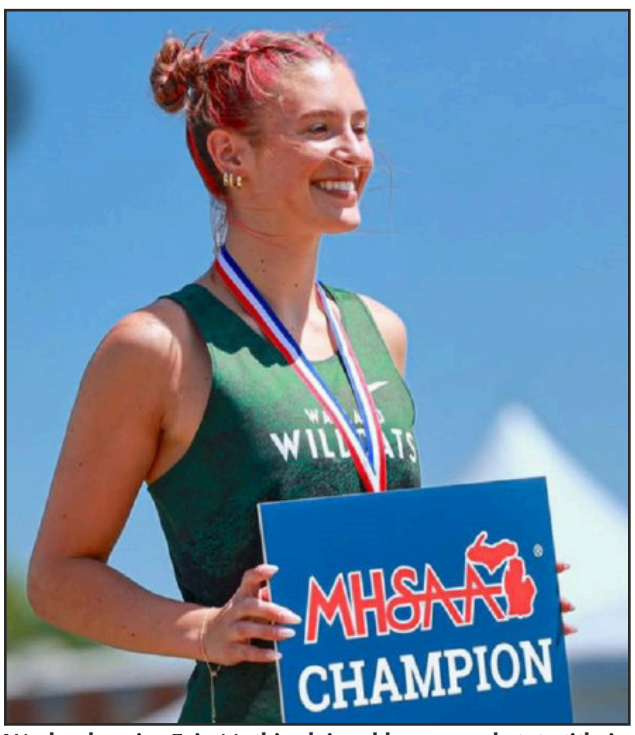
Mathis, Dilley go 1-2 in pole vault at D2 girls state finals

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HAMILTON—When the pole vault competition came to an end at the Division 2 Girls Track & Field State Finals on Saturday, May 30, two familiar names sat atop the leaderboard.



Wayland senior Evie Mathis claimed her second state title in pole vault. (Photo provided)

Wayland's Evie Mathis claimed the state title and Allegan's Bailee Dilley finished second, giving Allegan County athletes the top two spots in the event at the Division 2 state finals.

Mathis cleared 12 feet, 3 inches to capture the championship, while Dilley finished runner-up after clearing 12-0.

Allegan posted the highest team finish among local schools, tying for 14th place with 14 points. Wayland tied for 24th with 10 points, Hopkins tied for 45th with three points and Otsego tied for 50th with two points.

The Tigers' strong finish was aided by more than Dilley's runner-up effort.

Senior Jayden VandenAkker earned all-state honors in a pair of events, placing fifth in the 100-meter hurdles in 15.02 seconds and seventh in the 300 hurdles in a season-best 46.07.

Hopkins also produced an all-state performer, as senior Riley Homrich placed sixth in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.53 seconds.

Otsego's Madden Fitzpatrick rounded out the area's all-state efforts. The junior placed seventh in the discus with a personal-best throw of 125-1.

Several other local athletes turned in strong showings.

Hamilton senior Jenna Dozeman narrowly missed all-state honors, placing 10th in the 400-meter dash with a personal-best time of 59.68 seconds.

Otsego sophomore Alayna Verhage placed 12th in the 3,200-meter run (11:33.93) and 16th in the 1,600 (5:24.51), while teammate Addelyn Sabatke finished 14th in the 3,200 (11:36.88). Audrey Holmes placed 13th in the shot put at 35-1.25.

Plainwell's Mai Nguyen competed in both distance events, placing 15th in the 1,600-meter run (5:22.53) and 16th in the 3,200 (11:40.74).

Hopkins junior Keilah Bonga finished 12th in the discus with a throw of 115-0, while teammate Andrea Brower placed 15th in the 300 hurdles in a personal-best 47.43.

Wayland baseball wins district crown

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

WAYLAND—The trophies keep piling up for the Wayland baseball team.

Less than two weeks after claiming its first OK Gold Conference championship since 2001, the Wildcats added a Division 2 district title to their growing list of accomplishments Saturday, May 30.

Wayland opened the day with a 4-0 victory over South Christian in the district semifinals before knocking off Lakewood 6-2 in the championship game to secure the title.

The youthful makeup of the Wayland roster—the Wildcats, who start four junior, four sophomores and a freshman and don't have any seniors—made the accomplishment even more satisfying for coach Drew Lakatos.

"We are excited at the opportunity to extend our season and hope to represent our school and community with pride," Lakatos said.

The Wildcats leaned on strong pitching throughout the day, beginning with a dominant effort from Easton Williams in the semifinal. Williams tossed a complete-game shutout, allowing just three hits while striking out two and walking one.

Wayland managed just four hits offensively, but made them count.

Landon Atwell collected two hits and drove in three runs, while Jaxon Ritsema and Colston Lown added one hit apiece.

The Wildcats broke through with a pair of runs in the fourth inning before adding two more in the fifth to pull away.

The championship game against Lakewood proved to be more of a grind.

Wayland was limited to six hits and left 11 runners on base, but timely hitting and another strong performance on the mound helped the Wildcats complete the sweep.

"The game against Lakewood was a game of missed opportunities," Lakatos said. "We only had six hits, but benefited from three hit batters and six walks.

"We stranded 11 runners on the day and relied on great pitching efforts from Will Lodenstein and Hoyt Borgic. We were fortunate to get timely hitting and great pitching."

Lodenstein worked the first 4.2 innings, allowing two runs—neither of them earned—on just three hits while striking out six and issuing no walks.

Borgic took over from there and slammed the door, tossing the final 2.1 innings without allowing a hit while striking out three and walking none.

Freshman Colston Lown led the offense with two hits, while Lodenstein, Borgic and Cam Weber each added singles. Ty Ford contributed an RBI double.

Wayland built a 2-0 lead in the second inning before Lakewood knotted the score at 2-2 in the top of the fifth. But the Wildcats answered with a run in the bottom of the frame and tacked on three insurance runs an inning later to secure the win.

Saugatuck baseball dominates at districts

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

BLOOMINGDALE—The Saugatuck baseball team left little doubt about who deserved to hoist the Division 3 district championship trophy Saturday.

The Trailblazers outscored its two opponents by a combined score of 27-1, overwhelming Black River 16-1 in the title game after rolling past Bloomingdale 11-0 in the semis.

The Black River game was stopped after the third inning due to the mercy rule, while the Bloomingdale game was stopped after the fifth inning.

For first-year coach Jaden Grigg, the championship was especially meaningful because of what it represented for a group of players that has experienced plenty of change throughout their high school careers.

"The players earned it, especially the upperclassmen, who have gone through so many coaching changes in their careers," Grigg said. "The seniors have had three coaches in four years, and the junior class has had a different coach every season they've played high school baseball.

"Being able to persevere and get to this point is a testament to their resiliency, not only on the field, but off it as well."

The Trailblazers wasted little time asserting themselves in the championship game against Black River.

Saugatuck erupted for 11 runs in the first inning and never looked back, ending the contest after three innings via the mercy rule.

Jack Drummond led the offensive attack by going 4-for-4 with three runs scored and four RBI. Nolan LaLonde finished with three hits, two runs and two RBI, while Braison Jones added two hits, three runs and three RBI.

LaLonde homered, while Jones and Drummond each collected a triple. Drummond also had a double.

Holden Burd earned the victory on the mound, allowing three hits and one unearned run while striking out eight over three innings.

In the Bloomingdale game, Burd, Drummond and Nolan LaLonde each drove in multiple runs. LaLonde finished with two hits and three RBIs, while Drummond added a two-run homer.

Sam Bos scored twice and drove in a run, while Evan Kothman and Oliver Hosier each contributed a hit and an RBI.

Jones tossed a two-hit shutout, striking out six and not issuing a walk in five innings of work.

The Trailblazers were also aggressive on the bases, stealing 17 bases across the two games.

Martin baseball secures first district title in two decades

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

VERMONTVILLE—When Martin baseball coach Brad Blauvelt took over the program four years ago, one of the goals was to make Clippers baseball relevant again.

On Saturday, that vision reached another milestone.

Powered by a veteran group that has helped lead the program's resurgence, Martin captured its first district championship since 2006 with a 6-1 victory over Maple Valley in the Division 4 district finals.

Earlier in the day, the Clippers opened tournament play with a 15-0 victory over Bellevue.

"It means a lot," Blauvelt said. "We've been knocking on the door of a district championship for the past couple years. We finally made that a reality."

The championship game against Maple Valley was far more competitive than the semifinal, but the Clippers delivered when it mattered most.

Martin broke things open in the fifth inning. That's when Haylen Buell drew a bases-loaded walk to force home a run before Peyton Schuring-Harris followed with an RBI single that pushed the Clippers' lead to 4-1.

That proved more than enough support for a pitching staff that shut down Maple Valley's offense.

Buell was dominant in relief, allowing just three hits over 5.2 scoreless innings while striking out six and walking one.

Martin also turned a double play behind its pitchers.

At the plate, Schuring-Harris drove in three runs and finished with two hits. Jace Brinkhuis also collected two hits as the Clippers did the little things necessary to secure the championship.

"It also helps when you have Haylen Buell on your team," Blauvelt said. "He is very special. Glad we earned a few more days of practice and another game."

The Clippers advanced to the finals with a dominant performance against Bellevue.

Martin scored three runs in the first inning, added five more in the second and broke the game open with seven runs in the third.

Brinkhuis led the offensive attack with three hits, while Buell went 2-for-4 and drove in three runs.

Zaiden Buell handled the work on the mound, tossing three hitless innings. He struck out three and walked one as Bellevue struggled to generate any offense.

The Clippers will face Hacket in a regional semifinal on Wednesday, June 3, at Decatur.

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Hopkins upends Allegan for first district crown

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SOUTH HAVEN—For 40 years, the Hopkins girls soccer program had never won a district championship.

On Friday, May 29, the Vikings finally crossed that milestone off the list. And they did it against the same team that broke their hearts a year ago.

Hopkins rallied with two goals in the final two minutes to stun Allegan 2-1 in a Division 3 district championship game at South Haven, earning the program's first district title and reversing the outcome of last season's district final, which Allegan won in a shootout.

Trailing 1-0 with less than two minutes remaining, the Vikings appeared headed for another disappointing finish despite controlling play for much of the evening.

Instead, they found a way.

Freshman Claire Brenner tied the game with 1:59 remaining when her corner kick found its way into the net, knotting the score at 1-1.

Just over a minute later, Ali Langlois weaved through traffic and fired a shot into the lower-right corner of the goal with 45 seconds left, giving Hopkins its first lead of the night and sending the Vikings into celebration mode.

"It's everything to the program," Hopkins coach John Mieras said of the title. "I've been here four years, and these seniors have started every game for me. I wanted this for them more than anything. Their work ethic and attitude have been incredible."

The dramatic finish came after a match that seemed determined to frustrate the Vikings.

Hopkins controlled possession for long stretches and outshot Allegan 40-7, but could not find a way past Allegan goalkeeper Mya Corbett for most of the contest.

Allegan's lone goal came in the first half, and despite Hopkins' relentless pressure, that advantage held into the closing minutes.

"You've got to have faith and hope they're going to follow through," Mieras said of his team's late push. "We had so many shots and were missing in so many different ways. There comes a point where you start wondering if it's going to happen. But the girls kept believing."

The equalizer brought back memories of last year's district final.

Ironically, Hopkins also scored off a corner kick late in that match to force extra time before eventually falling in a shootout.

"This year, the corner kick tied it again," Mieras said. "Fortunately, we got the second one quickly and didn't have to go that direction."

While Hopkins celebrated the historic victory, Mieras was quick to credit Allegan and coach Stu McLean for the challenge they presented.

"We played them earlier in the season and I thought they looked much more composed and faster this time around," Mieras said. "(Allegan coach) Stu (McLean) does a remarkable job with that group.

"They lost a lot of seniors last year, and for them to come back and have that kind of effort, you've got to commend Stu and the Allegan girls. And Corbett was amazing in goal for them."

Hopkins' Claire Brenner (right) and Allegan's Aubrey Fulton race for the ball. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Trailblazers win district in shootout

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SAUGATUCK—If the Saugatuck girls soccer team was going to win a district championship, it was only fitting that it happened the hard way.

After battling Black River to a 1-1 draw through regulation and two overtime periods, the Trailblazers survived six rounds of a shootout before freshman Charlee Gustafson delivered the winning penalty kick in a dramatic 2-1 victory Friday, May 29, in the Division 4 district semifinals.

The win secured a district title for Saugatuck, which avenged a 4-1 loss to Black River earlier this season and earned its second straight shootout victory after defeating Zion Christian earlier in the week.

"It couldn't have happened any other way," Saugatuck coach Neal Phillips said. "It had to go to a shootout and then into extra shooters. That's kind of our way—grinding until the last second and making it as nerve-racking as possible. But I think that's what made it so great.

"I think beating the team that whooped us so hard earlier in the season and getting two shootout wins when we hadn't played a shootout all year long is surreal."

The championship run came during a season in which the Trailblazers entered with fewer expectations than some of their recent teams.

Saugatuck graduated several key players from previous squads and experienced its share of ups and downs during the regular season.

"People kind of forgot about us a little bit," Phillips said. "We've had high expectations the last few years, and this was kind of the first year we didn't have those expectations on us. That makes it even more special.

"I'm really proud of what we've built and how the girls responded after some tough losses during the season."

Black River struck first Friday, taking a 1-0 lead early in the opening half.

The Trailblazers answered with just under 14 minutes remaining before halftime when senior Neave Rewa bent a corner kick into the net to even the score at 1-1.

The goal was another memorable moment for Rewa, who already owns Saugatuck's single-season and career scoring records.

"Oh yeah, that was kind of crazy," Rewa said of the goal. "Avery (Smith) had the ball up and we earned a corner. I curved it in and it went in. That was a pretty fun moment."

Neither team could find another goal the rest of regulation.

The deadlock continued through both 10-minute overtime periods, sending the match to a shootout.

After five rounds, the score remained tied at 3-3.

Black River missed its attempt in the sixth round, opening the door for Saugatuck.

Gustafson stepped to the spot and calmly chipped her shot into the corner as the goalkeeper dove the opposite direction, touching off a celebration on the Trailblazer sideline.

Black River generated some dangerous chances, but Saugatuck's back line repeatedly turned them away.

"I'm so proud of them," Phillips said. "We had a senior back there, two freshmen on the back line, and after that early mistake they completely locked things down."

Bulldogs top Trojans in district final

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SOUTH HAVEN—A month ago, a district championship seemed a long way off for the Otsego baseball team.

After opening the season with 12 consecutive losses and dropping 15 of its first 16 games, the Bulldogs found themselves searching for answers.

On Saturday, May 30, they found themselves celebrating.

Otsego continued its remarkable turnaround by defeating archrival Plainwell 4-1 in a Division 2 district championship game after opening the day with a 10-2 victory over Allegan in the semifinals.

The district title capped a remarkable stretch for the Bulldogs, who have gone 12-4 since their difficult start and enter regional play riding a five-game winning streak.

"We had a really difficult late March and April," coach Matt Eldred said. "Played some really good teams, but also weren't playing very well. We found ourselves out of the conference race in late April.

"We built everything around the district on May 30 at that point."

Eldred said assistant coach Ryan Meert introduced a daily "one thing" routine designed to keep the team focused on incremental improvement.

"Very proud of how our guys responded," Eldred said. "We had a very good May which culminated with the district championship."

The Bulldogs relied on a dominant pitching performance from Kaleb Hildebrand in the championship game against Plainwell.

Facing a Trojan team that had swept a Wolverine Conference doubleheader from Otsego earlier this season, Hildebrand delivered what Eldred called his best outing of the year.

The right-hander tossed a complete game, scattering nine hits while allowing just one run. He struck out six and did not issue a walk in the 79-pitch effort.

Otsego scored twice in the second inning and added two more in the fourth to build a 4-1 lead.

Dillon Campbell scored twice and doubled, while Nate Maisel added two hits and scored two runs. Merrill Bailey and Landon Wrobleski each drove in a run, while Brennan Perry and Reid Anderson contributed sacrifice flies.

Plainwell managed nine hits, including a four-hit performance from Andrew Hampton and two hits from Luke Filkins, but the Trojans were unable to generate sustained offense.

One defensive play in particular stood out to Eldred.

After Hampton singled and advanced when the ball skipped past the outfielder, Bailey quickly recovered and fired a strike to Perry, who relayed the ball to Maisel for a tag at third base.

"The play was a great example of competitive greatness," Eldred said. "Quickly moving from one play to the next. It definitely kept the momentum on our side."

Earlier in the day, the Bulldogs opened district play with a convincing victory over Allegan.

Matthew Jackson set the tone on the mound, allowing six hits and one earned run while striking out seven over 6.1 innings. Anderson recorded the final two outs.

"The starting pitchers really did their job at a high level," Eldred said. "Matthew threw a lot of strikes and we provided him with a lot of run support."

Otsego pounded out 15 hits in the semifinal victory.

Campbell went 3-for-4 with two runs scored and an RBI, while Perry, Nolan Whitmore, Jaxon Ray, Hildebrand and Nate Maisel each collected two hits.

Otsego's Brennan Perry prepares to catch the throw on a steal attempt by Plainwell's Andrew Hampton. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Saugatuck's Neave Rewa (13) scored a goal in the district final against Black River. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Wayland softball earns program's 29th district title

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

WAYLAND—It might not be quite as certain as death and taxes.

But the Wayland softball team winning a district title under the direction of longtime coach Cheri Ritz has been a regular occurrence for more than three decades.

The Wildcats added other district championship to that list on Saturday, May 30, beating Hopkins 11-0 in the finals after besting South Christian 16-6 in the semis earlier in the day.

Wayland wasted little time taking control against Hopkins.

Mackenzie Kositzky sparked the offense with a two-run double in the first inning, giving the Wildcats an early lead. Wayland added three more runs in the second inning, getting a sacrifice fly from Kaylee Lown (which scored two runs) and an RBI double from Clara Dutkiewicz.

A walk by Madison Jordan pushed the lead to 6-0 in the third inning, and the Wildcats continued to add on from there.

Kositzky was equally effective in the circle, tossing a five-inning shutout. She allowed just two hits while striking out four and walking one.

Wayland finished with 12 hits in the championship game. Kositzky and Hannah Hoevenaar led the way with three hits apiece, while Kositzky, Lown, Dutkiewicz and Rae Stallard each drove in two runs.

The Wildcats also showed patience at the plate, drawing eight walks.

Hopkins managed hits from Madi Veldheer and Jorja Wood.

Earlier in the day, Wayland had to overcome an early deficit against South Christian.

The Sailors erased a 3-0 first-inning deficit and grabbed a 4-3 lead in the second before Wayland answered with two runs in the bottom of the inning to move back in front.

After South Christian tied the game at 5-5 in the third, the Wildcats broke things open with an eight-run inning highlighted by a two-run single from Stallard.

Stallard finished with five RBIs, collecting a single and a double. Madi Ludema also played a key role, driving in two runs and scoring twice.

Wayland pounded out 14 hits in the semifinal victory. Stallard, Lown, Dutkiewicz, Ludema, Kositzky and Shelby VanHouten all recorded two hits.

Ludema earned the win in the circle, allowing six runs on eight hits while striking out three over five innings.

The Wildcats also took advantage of six walks, stole six bases and played error-free defense.

With the district title secured, Wayland (29-10) advanced to regional play against host Unity Christian (30-9) at noon on Saturday, June 6. The winner will play either Grand Rapids Christian or Portland in the regional title game.

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE SALE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Matthew M. Gallas, single man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Vandyk Mortgage Corporation dated August 31, 2005 and recorded October 25, 2005 in Liber 2907, Page 724, Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by MidFirst Bank by assignment. In pursuance and by virtue of a Judgment of Foreclosure entered for Plaintiff, MidFirst Bank against Defendant, Matthew M. Gallas in Case No. 2025-0000070973-CH of the Allegan County Circuit Court, the below premises shall be foreclosed and sold by public auction. Said Judgment of Foreclosure was entered on the 6th day of April, 2026, wherein there is claimed to be due on said date the sum of Eighty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Seventeen Dollars and Fifty Cents ($82,617.50), plus sums advanced for taxes, insurance and other fees incurred and allowed by said mortgage. Under the Judgment of Foreclosure and related statutes, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgage premises pursuant to the Judgment of Foreclosure and that the sale shall be at public auction to the highest bidder, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, on the 18th day of June, 2026 at 9:00 AM, Eastern Standard Time, the following described property, viz: All certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Township of Monterey, County of Allegan and State of Michigan, described as follows: The South 330 feet of the West 50 feet of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 8, Town 3 North, Range 13 West. Also the West 200 feet of the North 353 feet of the South 683 feet of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 8, Town 3 North, Range 13 West, Monterey Township, Allegan County, Michigan. Commonly Known As: 3373 132nd Ave, Hopkins, MI, 49328 Tax ID: 16-008-009-21 This property may be redeemed during the six (6) months following the sale. Dated: April 21, 2026 Orlans Law Group PLLC /s/ Sogol I. Plagany Attorneys for Plaintiff Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084 Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400 File No. 25-011533

(04-30)(06-04)

ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC, MAY BE DEEMED A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, GA 30004 ph:470-321-7112 Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 A.M. on June 18, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information: Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): WILLIAM R. GHRAMES. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by WILLIAM R. GHRAMES to FIFTH THIRD MORTGAGE - MI, LLC, original Mortgagee, for a mortgage dated January 18, 2002, and recorded on February 13, 2002, in Liber 21921 Page 74 of the Allegan County Register of Deeds. Said mortgage was assigned through mesne assignments to Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc., as documented by an assignment dated June 24, 2025, and recorded on July 9, 2025, in Liber 5048 Page 651 in the ALLEGAN County Register of Deeds, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of $64,379.89. Under the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court within ALLEGAN County, Michigan on June 18, 2026 at 9:00 A.M. Said premises are located in the city of ALLEGAN in ALLEGAN County, Michigan and are described as: THE EAST 183 FEET OF A PARCEL OF LAND DESCRIBED AS 263 FEET EAST AND WEST AND 417 FEET NORTH AND SOUTH IN THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 35, TOWN 2 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST. Property Address: 2635 113TH AVE., ALLEGAN, MI 49010 Tax ID No. 01-035-008-10 The redemption period shall be Six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If this property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the Mortgage sale or to the Mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC. Mortgagee/ Assignee May 21,2026 ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Attorney for Mortgagee/ Assignee 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450 Alpharetta, GA 30004 Telephone: 470-321-7112 Facsimile: 404-393-1425 Service Email: MIFCLTeam@raslg.com

(05-21)(06-11)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on July 2, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information: Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Lisa Hale and Shane Hale, wife and husband Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation Date of Mortgage: February 16, 2022 Date of Mortgage Recording: March 1, 2022 Amount claimed due on date of notice: $204,417.74 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Martin, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing 586.74 feet North of the Southeast corner of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 30, Town 2 North, Range 11 West, as a point of beginning, thence West 12 rods, thence North 70 feet, thence East 12 rods, thence South 70 feet to the place of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 1520 10th St, Martin, MI 49070-9728 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: May 21, 2026 Trott Law, P.C. 31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145 Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (248) 642-2515 1593770 (05-21)(06-11)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on June 18, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information: Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Joshua Prihoda, unmarried Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC successor by merger to Nationstar Mortgage LLC Date of Mortgage: March 7, 2022 Date of Mortgage Recording: March 22, 2022 Amount claimed due on date of notice: $203,525.39 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Gunplain, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: A parcel of land in the West 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 36, commencing at the place of intersection of the Northerly line of Highway M-89 as relocated with the West 1/8 line of said Section; thence South 74 degrees 37 minutes 40 seconds East along the Northerly line of Highway M-89 as relocated 324.4 feet to the place of beginning of this description; thence North 00 degrees 09 minutes 40 seconds West 141.72 feet; thence South 83 degrees 43 minutes East 252.14 feet; thence South 00 degrees 09 minutes 40 seconds East 183.06 feet to Northerly line of Highway M-89 as relocated; thence Northwesterly along Northerly line of Highway M-89 as relocated to place of beginning, Section 36, Town 1 North, Range 11 West.

Common street address (if any): 137 M 89, Plainwell, MI 49080-9554 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: May 21, 2026 Trott Law, P.C. 31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145 Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (248) 642-2515 1593974 (05-21)(06-11)

STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL DISTRICT 57th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT ALLEGAN COUNTY ORDER REGARDING ALTERNATE SERVICE CASE NO. 25-03866-SP and JUDGE Judge: SKOCELAS Plaintiff's name, address, and telephone no. Maria McCartney Trustee of Integrity Solo 401K c/o Plaintiff's Counse Plaintiff's attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no. SOTTILE AND BARILE, LLC David C. Nalley (P82119), Franco Barile (P69468), & Anthony Schievelbein (P88196), 394 Wards Corner Road, Suite 180, Loveland, OH 45140 440.572.1511 / foreclosure@sottileandbarile.com v Defendant's name, address, and telephone no. Jeannette M. Meade 357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078 Nathan T. Clark

357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078 Unknown Occupant(s), if any 357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078 THE COURT FINDS: 1. Service of process upon the defendant, Nathan T. Clark, cannot reasonably be made as provided in MCR 2.107(B)(1)(b) and service of process may be made in a manner that is reasonably calculated to give the defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard. IT IS ORDERED: 2. Service of the summons and complaint and a copy of this order shall be made by the following method(s). a. First class mail to 357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078 d. Other: Publication in the Allegan County News for three consecutive weeks. s/ Joseph Skocelas (P31714) March 2, 2026 5-21 6-4

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00, on June 18, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by CAROL OLSEN AND JAMES M OLSEN, WIFE AND HUSBAND, whose address is 4290 47th Street, Holland, Michigan 49423, as original Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for T2 Financial LLC DBA/ Revolution Mortgage and Lender's successors and assigns, being a mortgage dated January 26, 2024, and recorded on February 5, 2024 in Liber 4918 Page 781, with Document Number 2024001551, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Newrez LLC d/b/a/ Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated March 20, 2026 and recorded on March 20, 2026 in Liber 5120 Page 451, and given Document Number 2026004103 in Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of THREE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX AND 49/100 ($324,956.49). Said premises are situated in the Township of Overisel, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: THE SOUTH 3 ACRES OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 18, TOWN 4 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST, OVERISEL TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID 3 ACRES BEING SOUTH 03 DEGREES 26 MINUTES 07 SECONDS EAST 2637.78 FEET AS MEASURED ON THE EAST LINE OF THE NORTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 AND SOUTH 03 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 18 SECONDS EAST 133.72 FEET FROM THE NORTH 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 18; THENCE PROCEEDING ON THE EAST LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 18 SOUTH 03 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 18 SECONDS EAST 198.02 FEET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 18; THENCE ON SAID SOUTH LINE NORTH 89 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 52 SECONDS WEST 661.60 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 18; THENCE ON SAID WEST LINE NORTH 03 DEGREES 25 MINUTES 17 SECONDS WEST 198.01 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTH 3 ACRES OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST ¼ OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 18; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 52 SECONDS EAST 661.48 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Street Address: 4290 47th Street, Holland, Michigan 49423 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act

NOTICE
to All Affected Taxing Jurisdictions

NOTICE TO ALL TAXING JURISDICTIONS
THE City Commission of the City of Fennville PROPOSES TO APPROVE A BROWNFIELD PLAN FOR THE Cider Cove Development Project PROPERTY LOCATED AT Parcel #52-032-006-01, MICHIGAN PRESENTLY KNOWN AS 612 Glenview Dr.

The City Commission of Fennville has established a Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (the "Authority") in accordance with the Brownfield Redevelopment Act, Act 381 Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1996, as amended (the "Act").

The Act provides a means for local units of government to facilitate the revitalization of environmentally distressed, functionally obsolete and/or blighted areas. The Authority has prepared and adopted a Brownfield Plan for redevelopment of the Cider Cove Development Project property located at Parcel #52-032-006-01 at 612 Glenview Dr. at Fennville, Michigan. The proposed reuse for this property is housing. The property is contaminated with hazardous substances under environmental laws and regulations, and/or was determined by an assessor to be functionally obsolete or blighted. This document is notification to local taxing units of the Brownfield Plan for the noted property, and of the City of Fennville's intent to approve the Brownfield Plan.

The Act permits the Authority to use tax increment financing for redevelopment projects included in a Brownfield Plan. Tax increment financing allows the Authority to capture tax revenues attributable to increases in the taxable value of real and personal property located on the "eligible property," which may include adjacent or contiguous parcels. Increases in taxable value may be attributable to various factors, including remediation, new construction, rehabilitation, remodeling, alterations, additions, and installation of personal property on the contaminated, functionally obsolete or blighted property.

The plan will be adopted at the June 15th meeting of the City Commission held at 6 p.m. at Fennville City Hall, 125 S. Maple St. Fennville, MI. If you have any questions or comments concerning the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority you may attend the meeting and express those concerns during the public comment period. You may also direct inquires to the City Administrator's office at

Fennville City Hall.
Samuel Jacobs, City Clerk

HEATH TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF HEATH TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

Please take notice that the Heath Township Planning Commission will hold a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2026 at Heath Township Hall, 3440 M-40, Hamilton, MI, 49419. Proceedings conducted at this meeting are being conducted pursuant to the Zoning Enabling Act of 2006 (PA110) as amended and the Open Meetings Act, as amended.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the items to be considered during the public hearing includes an amendment to Section 3.02 – General Definitions and to Chapter 24 – Signs of the Zoning Ordinance text of Heath Township as follows:

1. The following is a summary of the proposed text amendment to revise Section 3.02 – General Definitions of the Heath Township Zoning Ordinance:

   Section 3.02 – General Definitions
   The text amendment proposes to eliminate "Signs and Billboards" and its content therein.

2. The following is a summary of the proposed text amendment to Chapter 24 – Signs of the Heath Township Zoning Ordinance:

Chapter 24 – Signs

The text amendment proposes to correct grammar and punctuation errors and omissions; modify the definition of a Pole Sign to provide clarity regarding maximum size and minimum height from grade; establish a maximum area for monument signs (ground mounted) and; eliminate content related provisions in violation of the Reed v. Gilbert Supreme Court case.

Written comments will be received from any interested persons concerning the foregoing matters by the Heath Township Clerk at the Township Hall at any time during regular business hours up to the date of the hearing and may be further received by the Planning Commission at the hearing.

Heath Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed material being considered at the hearing, to individuals with disabilities at the hearing upon four (4) days' notice to the Heath Township Clerk. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Heath Township Clerk at the address or telephone number listed below.

HEATH TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Missy Harvey, Clerk
3440 M-40, P.O. Box 241
Hamilton, Michigan 49419
(269) 751-2403

TOWNSHIP OF GANGES
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Note: change of location

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Ganges Township Planning Commission will hold public hearings and regular meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Glenn Community Center 6953 114th Ave, Fennville, within the Township.

Please take further notice that the matter to be considered at the public hearing include the following:

1. Fenn Valley South LLC, reversion of zoning from Conditional Rezone Commercial back to Residential/Agriculture, due to development not occurring within the required timeframe, 6130 122nd Ave, 0307-012-018-00

Part of the Northwest ¼ of Section 12, Town 2 North, Range 16 West, Ganges Township, Allegan County, Michigan described as: commencing at the north ¼ corner of said Section 12; thence S89degrees53'48' W 284.00 feet along the north line of said Section to the Point of beginning; thence continuing S89degrees53'48' W 501.46 feet along said north line: thence S00degrees03'12' E 471.80 feet; thence N89degrees53"48" E 499.07 feet; thence N00degrees13'41' E 472.00 feet parallel with the north and south ½ line of said Section to the point of beginning, contains 5.42 acres, subject to highway right-of-way for 122nd Avenue over the most northernly 33 feet thereof, subject to easements, restrictions, and rights of way of record.

2. WM 1630 LLC, has petitioned for a Rezoning request from Conditional Rezone Commercial (Special Use, Brewery) to Commercial at 1630 Blue Star Hwy 0307-020-027-00, part of 0307-020-019-10.
Com at S ¼ cor th E 658.83' th N 1308.71' th E 1361.48' th S 416.88' th E 317.58' to C/L of Blue Star Hwy to the POB th S'ly ALG SD C/L 354.41' th W 1531.64' th N 400.25' th E 1410.44' th S 92.59' th E 331.21' to POB Sec 20T2N R16W

3.To amend the Ganges Township Zoning Ordinance #65: to amend Article 2 Definitions, update several definitions; Article 3, 3.9 Fences, 3.19 Pond, 3.33 Food Truck, 3.36 ORV; Article 5 amend Parks; Article 6 remove campground, amend parks; Article 7 amend parks; Article 8 amend parks; Article 9 amend parks; Article 10 amend parks and lot size; Article 11 amend Ag products, campgrounds, contractor yard, lumber yard, parks, woodwork shop; Article 16 sign plans; Article 18, Special Land Use Standards for Campgrounds, Ag products, winery, brewery; Article 20 to consolidate Variance rules under one section, 20.4, and to amend rules for Variance applications; and, to correct minor errors throughout the Ordinance. Renumber where added text occurs.

Written documents may be submitted to the Clerk at 1904 64th Street, Fennville, MI 49408 up to the date of the hearing and may also be submitted at the hearing. Anyone interested in reviewing a copy of the applications or text amendment may contact the Clerk 269-543-8316 or Zoning Administrator mtsallegan@frontier.com

Necessary and reasonable aids for disabled persons will be made available with sufficient notice to the clerk.

Robin Phelps
1904 64th Street
Fennville MI 49408
269-543-8316

Public Notices

be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: May 21, 2026 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490) Johnson, Blumberg & Associates LLC 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 3650 Chicago, Illinois, 60602 312.541.9710 - Phone 312.541.9711 - Fax File No.: MI 26 7223
(05-21)(06-11)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on JULY 2, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Bruce Larsen, Jr., single man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Northern Mortgage Services, LLC., its successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated August 18, 2021 and recorded August 23, 2021 in Liber 4661, Page 849 Allegan County Records, Michigan, and Affidavit Affecting Realty recorded May 18, 2026 in Liber 5138, Page 801 Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by NewRez LLC, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Eighty and 95/100 Dollars ($232,380.95).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on JULY 2, 2026.
Said premises are located in the Township of Dorr, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:
Lot 1, Hidden Forest Estates No. 1, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 13 of Plats, Page 9, Allegan County Records.Also, commencing at the Southwest corner of said Lot 1, Hidden Forest Estates No. 1; thence South 89 degrees 25'52" East 117.0 feet along the South line of said Lot; thence South 00 degrees 51'52" West 50.0 feet; thence North 89 degrees 25'52" West 117.0 feet; thence North 00 degrees 51'52" East 50.0 feet to the place of beginning, being part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 15, Town 4 North, Range 12 West.
1678 Slater Ave, Dorr, Michigan 49323
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period. FinCEN reporting will be required of all successful purchasers, absent a lawful exemption.
Dated: May 28, 2026
File No. 26-004359
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(05-28)(06-18)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on July 2, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Zachary Kragness, a single man
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nationstar Mortgage LLC
Date of Mortgage: July 3, 2017
Date of Mortgage Recording: July 11, 2017
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $188,451.28
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Fennville, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 20, Landsburg's Plat, according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 6 of Plats, Page 26, Allegan County Records
Common street address (if any): 5667 Landsburg Rd, Fennville, MI 49408-9479
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: May 28, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1594737
(05-28)(06-18)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on July 02, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Christopher Vern Sparks, a single man and Peggy Ann Sparks, a single woman Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: April 29, 2024 Recorded on May 7, 2024, Liber 4941, on Page 130, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Northpointe Bank Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Sixty-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifteen and 78/100 Dollars ($163,715.78) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Part of the West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 34, Town 1 North, Range 11 West, described as: Commencing at a point in the center of the Highway leading from Plainwell to Silver Creek, where the 1/4 line running North and South through the center of Section 34 intersects said Highway; thence North on said 1/4 line 68 Rods (1122 feet) to the 1/8th line; thence East 28 Rods (462 feet) on said line; thence South 80 Rods (1320 feet) parallel with said 1/4 line to the center of the above named Highway; thence Northwesterly along the center of said Highway to the place of beginning. EXCEPT a parcel of land in the West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 34, Town 1 North, Range 11 West, described as: Commencing at a point in the center of the Highway leading from Plainwell to Silver Creek where the 1/4 line running North and South through the center of Section 34 intersects said Highway; thence North 12 Rods (198 feet) on the 1/4 line; thence East 7 Rods (115.5 feet) parallel with said Highway; thence South parallel with said 1/4 line to the center of said Highway; thence Westerly in center of said Highway to the place of beginning. Commonly known as 487 Riverview Dr, Plainwell, MI 49080 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale will be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Northpointe Bank Mortgagee/ Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400
1594816
(05-28)(06-18)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on 7/2/2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Names of Mortgagor(s): Rachael Rodriguez-Luna. Original mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for First Colony Mortgage Corp. Date of mortgage: 4/26/2024. Mortgage recorded on 4/29/2024 as Document No. 2024006346, in Liber 4938, Page 902. Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC.. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: $395,669.19 Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: LAND SITUATED IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, COUNTY OF ALLEGAN, TOWNSHIP OF SAUGATUCK. LOT 18 OF RAVINE ACRES NO. 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN LIBER 13 OF PLATS, PAGE 68, ALLEGAN COUNTY RECORDS. Commonly known as 6855 Dale Ct, Fennville, MI 49408. The redemption period will be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days after the statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is determined abandoned under MCL 600.3241, the redemption period will be 1 month from the date of such sale. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes pursuant to MCL 600.3240(16), the redemption period is 1 year from the date of such sale. The redemption period may be extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Date of Notice: 05/28/2026. Codilis & Moody, P.C. 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100 Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (313) 536-2500. This law firm is a debt collector. C&M File 23-26-00319
(05-28)(06-18)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust Estate
("Decedent") John L. Heuvelman
Date of Decedent's Birth: August 24, 1928
Name of Trust: Heuvelman Living Trust dated April 11, 2002
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Decedent, John L. Heuvelman, died April 19, 2026. There is no personal representative of Decedent's estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued. Creditors of Decedent are notified that all claims against the Decedent, Decedent's estate, and/or Decedent's trust(s) will be forever barred unless presented to Vicki L. Brouwer a/k/a Vicky J. Brouwer and/or Cheryl L. Tapley, Trustee, within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.
Dated:
Vicky L. Brouwer a/k/a Vicky J. Brouwer
165 Ann Street
Holland, Michigan 49424
Cheryl L. Tapley
3418 North Lakeshore Drive
Holland, Michigan 49424
Jason W. Wesseling (P85634)
WESSELING & BRACKMANN P.C.
6439 28th Avenue
Hudsonville, Michigan 49426
(616) 669-8185

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. XXX and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Kent F. Borkovec Date of Birth:*August 11, 1935
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Kent F. Borkovec , died _March 6, 2026.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to John Borkovec and David Borkovec , personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
5/26/2026
Varnum LLP
Katherine Szymanski P77877
PO Box 352
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0352
616/336-6000
John Borkovec and David Borkovec
10837 45th Avenue
Pleasant Prairie, WI 43185
708/207-3641

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public

WAYLAND UNION SCHOOLS

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2026-2027 BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on June 22, 2026 at 5:45 o'clock in the p.m. at 893 E. Superior St, Wayland, Michigan, the Board of Education of the Wayland Union School District, Allegan, Barry and Kent Counties, Michigan will hold a public hearing to consider the District's proposed 2026-2027 budget.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2026-2027 budget until after a public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2026-2027 budget, including the proposed property tax millage rate, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at 893 E. Superior St, Wayland, Michigan.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education.

Becky Hohnke, Secretary, Board of Education

NorthStar Clean Energy

Allegan Solar, LLC
Notice of Intent to Construct Solar and Batter Energy Storage System Facility

NorthStar Clean Energy and Allegan Solar, LLC are proposing an approximately 106 MW ground-mounted solar energy system and a 55 MW battery energy storage system located within Hopkins and Monterey Townships in Allegan County, Michigan (Project).

This letter is to provide notice, pursuant to Section 223(1) of PA 233 of 2023 (MCL 460.1223(2)) of a public meeting. The meeting will be on Thursday June 11th, 2026 at the Hopkins United Methodist Church, from 5:30-7:30 pm. The address is 322 Maple St, Hopkins, MI 49328.

Individuals who are unable to attend the public meeting, but would like to submit written comments about the Project, can do so by writing a message online at https://northstarcleanenergy.com/contact/ under "Reason for Inquiry," commentors should select "Submit Project Feedback" or by sending a written letter to:

NorthStar Clean Energy c/o Allegan Solar
2373 Oak Valley Dr
Suite 150
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

The Project Site Plan can be accessed online at: https://northstarcleanenergy.com/allegan-solar/

NOTICE

Harmoni Towers LLC proposes to build a 199-foot monopole Communications Tower/Structure. Anticipated lighting application is none. The Site location is 24th Street, Otsego, Allegan County, MI, 49078. Lat: 42-30-0.3, Long: -85-46-39.9. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Antenna Structure Registration (ASR, Form 854) filing number is A1384895.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS – Interested persons may review the application (www.fcc.gov/asr/applications) by entering the filing number. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review (www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest) and online filings are strongly encouraged. The mailing address to file a paper copy is: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. HISTORIC PROPERTIES EFFECTS - Public comments regarding potential effects on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Christopher Moore, c.moore@trileaf.com, 1515 Des Peres Road, Suite 200, St. Louis, MO 63131, 314-997-6111.

CITY OF PLAINWELL

ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 CITY BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 7.4 of the City of Plainwell Charter, that a public hearing on the proposed budget for the City of Plainwell for fiscal year 2026-2027 will be held at 7:00p.m. on Monday, June 22, 2026, in the Council Room of City Hall at 211 North Main Street, Plainwell, Michigan 49080.

The City Council may not adopt the proposed fiscal year 2026-2027 budget until after the public hearing. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard at the public hearing regarding the proposed budget. A copy of the proposed fiscal year 2026-2027 budget shall be on file and available to the public during normal office hours at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 211 North Main Street, Plainwell, MI, for a period of not less than one (1) week prior to such public hearing.

THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.

This notice is given by order of the Plainwell City Council.

The City of Plainwell is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of this meeting or the facilities, are asked to contact JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk, at 269-685-6821 promptly to allow the City of Plainwell to make reasonable accommodations.

Dated: May 30, 2026
JoAnn Leonard
Clerk, City of Plainwell

NOTICE

OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION
CITY OF PLAINWELL
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

PUBLIC NOTICE IS GIVEN that at a regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Plainwell held on May 26, 2026, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 405 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE TO ENACT A NEW CHAPTER 48, SECTION 48-4 TO ADOPT THE 2024 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE; REPEAL CHAPTER 49 ENTITLED "DANGEROUS BUILDINGS"; AND REPEAL CHAPTER 50 ENTITLED "HOUSING CODE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PLAINWELL.

The Effect of Ordinance No. 405 (the "Ordinance") is summarized as follows:

Section 1. Enactment of New Section 48-4, Chapter 48.
This Section adopts by reference the International Property Maintenance Code, 2024 edition, to act as the property maintenance code of the City. This Section also specifies additions, insertions, deletions and changes to the International Property Maintenance Code as adopted by the City.

Section 2. Repeal of Chapter 49.
This Section repeals the former Chapter 49 entitled "Dangerous Buildings" of the Plainwell Code.

Section 3. Repeal of Chapter 50.
This Section repeals the former Chapter 50 entitled "Housing Code" of the Plainwell Code.

Section 4. Repealer.
This Section provides that any ordinances and resolutions or parts of any ordinances and resolutions in conflict with the Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflict, repealed.

Section 5. Savings Clause.
This Section provides that the provisions of the Ordinance are severable, and that if any part of the Ordinance is declared void or inoperable for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration does not void any or render inoperable any part or portion of the Ordinance.

Section 6. No Effect on Pre-Existing Proceedings.
This Section provides that nothing in the Ordinance or in the International Property Maintenance Code as adopted by the City shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding pending in any court or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed. This Section also provides that no just or legal right or remedy of any character shall be lost, impaired or affected by the adoption of the Ordinance.

Section 7. Effective Date.
This Section provides that the Ordinance shall take effect ten days following its publication in the manner permitted by law.

A full copy of the new Ordinance may be inspected, reviewed or purchased during regular business hours at Plainwell City Hall located at 211 N. Main Street, Plainwell, Michigan 49080 or by contacting Plainwell City Clerk JoAnn Leonard at 269-685-6821.

Respectfully submitted by,
JoAnn Leonard
Plainwell City Clerk

Public Notices

auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on JULY 16, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Donald Manske Sr. and Briana Manske, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Change Lending, LLC, Mortgagee, dated May 24, 2023 and recorded June 28, 2023 in Liber 4867, Page 330 Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Change Lending LLC, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Five Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand Ninety-Four and 80/100 Dollars ($534,094.80).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on JULY 16, 2026.

Said premises are located in the Township of Wayland, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 5, Frederick J. Nowlen Plat, Township of Wayland, Allegan County, Michigan, as recorded in Liber 5 of Plats, Page 98.

2560 Seymour Drive, Shelbyville, Michigan 49344

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period. FinCEN reporting will be required of all successful purchasers, absent a lawful exemption.

Dated: June 4, 2026
File No. 26-005302
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(06-04)(06-25)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 2026-66075-DA and JUDGE Jolene A. Clearwater
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Ted William DeLong Date of Birth:*January 15, 1943
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Ted William DeLong, died October 8, 2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Ellen R. DeLong , personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Cunningham Dalman, P.C.
Thomas J. Hillegonds P74216
321 Settlers Road
(616) 392-1821
Holland, MI 49423
Ellen R. DeLong
1023 Colonial Court
Holland, MI 49423
(616) 204-3350

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on 7/16/2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Names of Mortgagor(s): Dottie Lynn Grauman and William Jay Grauman. Original mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Polaris Home Funding Corp. Date of mortgage: 9/4/2008. Mortgage recorded on 9/10/2008 as Document No. 2008017764, in Liber 3261, Page 266. Foreclosing Assignee (if any): U.S. Bank Trust, N.A. as Trustee of CFMT 2024-R1 Trust. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: $106,081.65 Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: TOWNSHIP OF ALLEGAN, COUNTY OF ALLEGAN, STATE OF MI LOTS 12, 13, AND 14, SOUTH SIDE EVERGREEN SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN LIBER 6 OF PLATS, PAGE 22, ALLEGAN COUNTY RECORDS. Commonly known as 2985 Oak Tree Ln, Allegan, MI 49010. The redemption period will be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days after the statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is determined abandoned under MCL 600.3241, the redemption period will be 1 month from the date of such sale. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes pursuant to MCL 600.3240(16), the redemption period is 1 year from the date of such sale. The redemption period may be extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Date of Notice: 06/04/2026. Codilis & Moody, P.C. 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100 Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (313) 536-2500. This law firm is a debt collector. C&M File 23-26-00335
(06-04)(06-25)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 26-66257-DE and JUDGE Alice L. Bernal
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Justine Allen Hughes Date of Birth:*7-30-92
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Justine Allen Hughes, died 4-25-26.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Virginia Hughes, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan,

NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING
ALLEGAN AREA ESA
2026-2027 PROPOSED BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that on June 15, 2026, 8:00 a.m. the Board of Education of the Allegan Area Educational Service Agency will hold a public hearing to consider the district's proposed 2026-2027 budget. Located at the Education Service Center located at 310 Thomas Street, Allegan, Michigan, 49010.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2026-2027 budget until after the public hearing. A copy of the proposed budget, including the proposed property tax millage rate, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the ESC building.

***The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

Mary Howard, Secretary

NOTICE
OF A PUBLIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED 2026-2027 BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on June 22, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Martin Middle/High School Clipper Room, 1556 Chalmers St., Martin, Michigan, the Board of Education of Martin Public Schools will hold a public hearing to consider the district's proposed 2026-2027 budget.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2026-2027 budget until after the public hearing. A copy of the proposed budget including the proposed property tax millage rate is available for public inspection during normal business hours at 1556 Chalmers Street, Martin, Michigan.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education.

Chuck Oxender, Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICE
OFFICE OF CITY COMMISSIONER
THREE OPEN SEATS NOVEMBER 3, 2026

DEADLINE TO FILE JULY 21, 2026, 4:00 PM
Petition forms/packets are now available at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 117 E. Orleans St., for election to the Otsego City Commission.

The City Election will be held Tuesday, November 3, 2026. Three Full-Term City Commission seats will be open for election this fall. The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes for the Full-Term Seats will be elected to four-year terms and the third candidate will be elected to a two-year term.

In order to qualify for the Office of City Commissioner, a candidate must be:
* A resident of the City for not less than one (1) year immediately preceding his or her election.
* A registered voter,

Nominations for office are determined by petition signed by not less than 40 registered voters of the City of Otsego. Petitions need to be submitted to the City Clerk's Office no later than Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

Angela Cronen, City Clerk

Notice
of Public Hearing
Salem Township
Zoning Board of Appeals
Variance Request

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended (the "Michigan Zoning Enabling Act") the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) of Salem Township will deliberate the following variance request(s) on Monday, June 22, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at Salem Township Hall, located at 3003 142nd Avenue, Burnips, Michigan.

The application(s) received are as follows:
1. A request from Wiliam Torres Rodriguez, property owner an unaddressed property on 146th Avenue known as permanent parcel 03-19-004-011-02, for relief from section 23.04(o)(1) of the Salem Township Zoning Ordinance to establish a rural event center on a parcel less than ten (10) acres in area within the A-1 Agricultural Conservation District.
2. A request from Vivan Buhler, property owner of the unaddressed property around the northeast corner of 146th Avenue and 34th Street known as permanent parcel 03-19-005-011-00, for relief from section 6.05(e) of the Salem Township Zoning Ordinance to create a parcel(s) with less than two hundred (200) feet of width within the R-1 Agricultural and Rural Estate District.
3. A request from Rob Hagenow, property owner of 4405 Friesian Court, also known as permanent parcel 03-19-250-009-00, for relief from section 6.05(a) and 11.09(d) of the Salem Township Zoning Ordinance to construct an accessory building within the required front yard of the R-1 Agricultural and Rural Estate District.

A copy of the application is available for review at the Township Hall during regular business hours.

This meeting is intended to provide an opportunity for Township residents and interested citizens to express their opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the request. Those unable to attend the public hearing are invited to submit written comments to the attention of the Zoning Administrator at the Township Hall address cited above. All written comments must be received by no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, June 22, 2026.

If any resident has a physical disability which may limit his/her participation in this hearing, please notify the Township Hall at least five (5) days prior to the hearing so that reasonable accommodations may be made.

SALEM TOWNSHIP
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
BRANDON OOSTERINK, CHAIR
616-877-2000

Notice of Public Hearing on Increasing Property Taxes

The Board of Trustees of the Ransom District Library will hold a public hearing on a proposed increase of 0.0369 mills in the operating tax millage rate to be levied on property in 2026

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 16th at 6:55pm at Ransom District Library, 180 S. Sherwood Ave, Plainwell, MI 49080.

The date and location of the meeting to take action on the proposed additional millage will be announced at this public meeting.

If adopted, the proposed additional millage will increase operating revenues from ad valorem property taxes 2.69% over such revenues generated by levies permitted without holding a hearing. If the proposed additional millage rate is not approved, the operating revenue will increase by 1.90% over the preceding year's operating revenue.

The taxing unit publishing this notice, and identified below, has complete authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from within its authorized millage rate.

This notice is published by:
Ransom Public Library
180 S. Sherwood Ave.
Plainwell, MI 49080
269-685-8024

Notice of Public Hearing on Increasing Property Taxes

The taxing Unit of the Board of MANLIUS TOWNSHIP will hold a public hearing on a proposed increase of 0.1628 mills in the operating tax millage rate to be levied on property in 2026

The hearing will be held on Monday the 13th of July at 7:00pm at Manlius Township Hall 3134 57th St New Richmond, MI 49408.

The date and location of the meeting to take action on the proposed additional millage will be announced at this public meeting.

If adopted, the proposed additional millage will increase operating revenues from ad valorem property taxes 2.70% over such revenues generated by levies permitted without holding a hearing. If the proposed additional millage rate is not approved, the operating revenue will increase by 2.02% over the preceding year's operating revenue.

The taxing unit publishing this notice, and identified below, has complete authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from within its authorized millage rate.

This notice is published by:
MANLIUS TOWNSHIP
3134 57th St
New Richmond MI 49408
269-561-8855

Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

May 31, 1951

Groom spends time squaring $5 gas bill for fifteen bucks: The honeymoon was over—or of at least badly interrupted Monday for Elmer Grover, 20, Kalamazoo.

For Grover spent most of the day squaring himself with Allegan officers and paying $15 for $5 worth of gas.

Grover actually was arrested Saturday, but kind-hearted officers, learning he had just been married that afternoon, let him go for the weekend.

In Judge Ervin Andrews municipal court Monday, Grover pleaded guilty to obtaining gasoline under false pretenses.

Chief of Police Howard Falk said Grover had twice charged gasoline to Allen Barber, Allegan, whom Grover said "he had heard of."

Judge Andrews ordered him to pay up the gas bills, around $5, apologize to the station owners and Barber, and then come back and pay a $10 fine.

The gasoline dealers said Grover had driven up in a nearly new car in April, charged the fuel to Barber and signed the name Jack James. Police have been looking for him ever since Barber received his bills, and declared Jack James was a total stranger.

May 27, 1976

History Class looks to national contest: Members of the Allegan Woman's History Class who attended the Michigan State Federation of Women's Clubs annual convention in Grand Rapids May 11-13 left the two-day event with a feeling of great accomplishment.

In addition to other awards, the Allegan club won the coveted first place Michigan General Federation of Women's Clubs-Shell Oil Company award in recognition of its contribution to environmental improvement.

To win the award, the conservation committee of the 100-year-old organization headed by Mrs. Fern Nahikian and Mrs. Gladys Mosier, conducted several planning meetings to discuss the beautification needs of the Allegan community.

THEIR INITIAL project was to improve the historical Toll Gate Marker site located at the corner of Marshall Street and Bridge Road where they weeded, spread top dirt, and planted 1,300 ajuga ground cover plants, a variety of seasonal plants, two Red Bud trees, and a dogwood tree.

They have maintained the site and plan to plant 400 red, white, and blue petunias next week.

Deaths

May 1, 2026
KEITH SCOTT, 81, Allegan Twp.
May 5, 2026
JAMES D BROWN, 93, Allegan
May 7, 2026
EMILY CLARE CAMPBELL, 51, Holland
May 8, 2026
ALBERT JOHN WIELINGA JR, 69, Allegan Twp.
May 12, 2026
BEN JAMES KIRKPATRICK, 66, Hopkins Twp.
May 13, 2026
THOMAS SIKAVITSAS, 71, Holland
May 14, 2026
TERRI JO COLTHURST, 57, Wayland
May 15, 2026
CAROL P MCGEEHAN, 77, Laketown Twp.
May 18, 2026
RITA JACQUELINE MALVITZ, 94, Otsego
May 19, 2026
T MICHAEL RUSSELL, 63, Otsego Twp.
DIANA MARIE WHEELER, 59, Otsego Twp.

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between May 19 and May 27:

MICHAEL IVAN IRVING, OTsego, and **CAROL ANN MASON**, Otsego
MATTHEW ALBERT PAVLIK, Wayland, and **ASHLEIGH RENEE WALLIN**, Wayland
LEWIS ERWIN WILLIAMS JR, Dorr, and **ABIGAIL ELIZABETH MOENCH**, Dorr
CELIA JAYNE BARBER, Hudsonville, and **JEREMY JUSTIN ADAMS**, Wayland
DALTON THOMAS LAMB, SHELBYVILLE, and **OLIVIA DANIELLE LANGWORTHY**, SHELBYVILLE
JORDON JAMES SALMON, Allegan, and **MARY CATHERINE MORRIS**, Allegan
ADDYSON JEANNE VANDENBERG, Dorr, and **SAMUEL LEVI OOSTERHEERT**, Wayland
DAVID ANTHONY SMITH, Allegan, and **MALLORY ELYSE GRIFFIN**, Allegan
ANTHONY IRA THORPE, Martin, and **BROOKE LYN RADWAN**, Martin
KATHERINE LEA MATA, Wayland, and **JONATHON MICHAEL VALK**, Wayland
NICHOLAS JOHN KUNKEL, Holland, and **SOPHIA MARIE POEL**, Saugatuck
JODY RJ KELSEY, Hopkins, and **MELISSA ANN VANARSDAL**, Hopkins
NATHANIEL MILES KOOIKER, Hamilton, and **SYDNEY NICOLE OSENTOSKI**, Wayland
MICHAEL SCOTT KUIPERS, Dorr, and **JAELYNN MAE METHENY**, Dorr
KATHERINE MARIE KONING, Allegan, and **ADAM RIDDER TJOELKER**, Columbus, OH
MAGGIE ANNE MARIE GONZALES, Plainwell, and **JACOB ALLEN BRUISCHART**, Plainwell
ANDREW MAX PADDOCK, Plainwell, and **LISA MARIE BELL**, Plainwell
LINDSEY ROSE KRUITHOF, Holland, and **JOSHUA DAVID ROZENDAL**, Hamilton
EMERALD ALEXA DEWEY, Allegan, and **JACOB ALAN HOUTMAN**, Milford
ETHAN HENRY JACKIEWICZ, Wayland, and **ELAYNA CHRISTINE WIEBENGA**, Hamilton
TAITE RYLYNN KENDER, Hamilton, and **DANIEL JOE DISSELKOEN**, Holland

Public Notices

MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
5-26-26
Virginia Hughes
169 11th Street
Plainwell, MI 49080

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-65710-DE and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Norma Gayle VanLoo Date of Birth:*REDACTED
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Norma Gayle VanLoo , died 03/22/2025 .
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Keith Allen Van Loo , personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
July, 21, 2025
Nathan Bocks, Central Park Law, PLLC (P47272).
1157 South Shoi:e Drive
Holland, Michigan 49423 (616) 395 -3761
Keith Allen Van Loo
606 West 40th Street
Holland, Michigan 49423 (616) 335-0278

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)
whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: SIERRA LYNN SNOOK PROUTY has filed a petition for name change.
A name change hearing will be held on WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2026 AT 10:00 AM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: SIERRA LYNN SNOOK PROUTY to SIERRA LYNN SNOOK

STATE OF MICHIGAN
48TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION
ALLEGAN COUNTY
PUBLICATION OF HEARING
CASE NO. 24-69841-NA PETITION NO.
Court Address: 113 Chestnut, Allegan, MI 49010
TO:ALLEGAN COUNTY NEWS
241 HUBBARD STREET
ALLEGAN, MI 49010
IN THE MATTER OF: PAISLEE BERRY
A ONE DAY TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS HEARING will be conducted by the court on JULY 7, 2026 at 9:30 A.M. (ALL DAY)-IN PERSON in ALLEGAN FAMILY COURT-113 CHESTNUT ST ALLEGAN MI 49010 - HEARING ROOM A before REFEREE JUDITH KASSON
You have the right to an attorney and the right to a trial by a judge or jury.
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that KYLE A. BERRY personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above. This hearing may result in the Termination of your parental rights. 113 Chestnut St. Allegan, MI 49010, Family Division.
Dated: 5/26/24
Judge Jolene A. Clearwater (P74848)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Trust
CASE NO. and JUDGE
Trust of Kent F. Borkovec
Date of Birth:* August 11, 1935
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Kent F. Borkovec, died March 6, 2026
Creditors of the decedent or of the Kent F. Borkovac Declaration of Trust dated April 3, 1991, as amended, are notified that all claims against the person or trust will be forever barred unless presented to John Borkovec and David Borkovec, Trustees, or to both the attorney and the Trustees within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
5/26/2026
Varnum LLP
Katherine Szymanski P77877
PO Box 352
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0352
616/336-6000
John Borkovec and David Borkovec
10837 45th Avenue
Pleasant Prairie, WI 43185
708/207-3641

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on July 2, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Sheryl K. Whipple, a unmarried woman Original Mortgagee: United States of America acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture Date of mortgage: April 10, 2009 Recorded on April 23, 2009, Book # 3318 on Page # 385. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Forty-Four Thousand Six Hundred Eleven and 99/100 ($144,611.99) Mortgaged premises: Located in the Township of Watson, Allegan County and described as: THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PREMISES SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WATSON, COUNTY OF ALLEGAN AND STATE OF MICHIGAN TO WIT: COMMENCING 24 RODS W OF THE SE CORNER OF THE SW 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 OF SECTION 1, T2N, R12W, AS A POB; THENCE W 11 RODS, THENCE N 22 RODS, THENCE E 11 RODS, THENCE S 22 RODS TO THE POB . Commonly known as 1271 122nd Avenue Hopkins MI 49328 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961 pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Please be advised that the trustee will require any entity or trust bidder at this trustee's sale to provide beneficial ownership information, documentation, and written certification as required under FinCEN's Anti-Money Laundering Regulations for Residential Real Estate Transfers, effective for transfers to covered transferees closing on or after March 1, 2026. This requirement applies where the purchaser is a legal entity (including an LLC, corporation, or partnership) or a trust, and the transfer is not financed by an institutional lender subject to existing anti-money laundering requirements. The required information and certification must be provided to the trustee prior to issuance of the trustee's deed upon sale. No trustee's deed will be issued for a covered transfer until all required FinCEN information has been received and certified. Additional information regarding these regulations and required transferee disclosures can be found at: https://www.fincen.gov/rre and https://www.fincen.gov/rre-faqs. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. ALAW 5404 Cypress Center Drive, Suite 300, Tampa, FL 33609 (813) 221-4743 26-005602
(06-04)(06-25)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF Allegan
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING
FILE NO. 25-65830-CA
In the matter of Christina Alexander
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including:
Unknown potential heirs and/or interested parties
whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on June 22, 2026 at 2:00PM at 113 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI 49010 before Judge Jolene Clearwater P74848 for the following purpose: Appoint: Donna Gable as Successor Conservator of Christina Alexander.
6/1/2026
Titus G. Donnell P87307
33 N 3rd St.,Suite 300
Columbus, OH 43215
Allegan Care Operating Co, LLC DBA Ely Manor
1200 Ely St.
Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-1500
STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF Allegan
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING
FILE NO. 25-65780-GA
In the matter of Christina Alexander
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including:
Unknown potential heirs and/or interested parties
whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on June 22, 2026 at 2:00PM at 113 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI 49010 before Judge Jolene Clearwater P74848 for the following purpose: Appoint: Donna Gable as Successor Guardian of Christina Alexander.
6/1/2026
Titus G. Donnell P87307
33 N 3rd St.,Suite 300
Columbus, OH 43215
Allegan Care Operating Co, LLC DBA Ely Manor
1200 Ely St.
Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-1500

FORECLOSURE NOTICE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, July 16, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by James A. Laux, A Married Man to Fifth Third Mortgage - MI, LLC, Mortgagee, dated July 31, 2014, and recorded on August 18, 2014, in Liber 3858, Page 910, Allegan County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Fifth Third Bank, National Association, FKA Fifth Third Bank as successor by merger to Fifth Third Mortgage Company by an Assignment of Mortgage dated August 21, 2015 and recorded August 25, 2015 in Liber 3957, Page 153, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Eighty-Nine and 70/100 ($67,289.70) including interest at the rate of 4.37500% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Clyde, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: Commencing at a point 344.0 feet North of the South 1/8 post of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 17, Town 2 North, Range 15 West, Clyde Township, Allegan County, Michigan; Thence continuing North 208.71 feet; Thence East 417.42 feet; Thence South 208.71 feet; Thence West 417.42 feet to the place of beginning. Also commencing 344 feet North of the South 1/8 post of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 17, Town 2 North, Range 15 West, Clyde Township, Allegan County, Michigan; Thence East 417.42 feet to the place of beginning of this description; Thence North 208.71 feet; Thence East to Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad right of way; Thence Southerly along said railroad right of way to a point 344 feet North of the South Section line; Thence West to beginning. Commonly known as: 1823 57TH ST, FENNVILLE, MI 49408 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: June 4, 2026 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Fifth Third Bank, National Association, FKA Fifth Third Bank as successor by merger to Fifth Third Mortgage Company 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 25MI00069-2
(06-04)(06-25)

CLASSIFIEDS

Misc.

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just $20/month. For more information, call 1-866-306-6243

Acculevel. Your foundation repair and basement waterproofing experts. Whether basement, crawl space or concrete slab we'll guide you on the right path to a healthy home. Act now! Up to $600 off. Restrictions apply. Call for a free consultation. 1-866-438-1859

Home for Sale

1984 Victorian manufactured home. 2 Bd, 2bth, 2 outdoor porches, 10'x12' 3 season room. All appliances and some furniture included. New flooring throughout, new window coverings, new interior paint throughout, 2 new toilets, generally good condition. Royal Estates Mobile Home Park 6253 Overdale Manor Rd., Kalamazoo, MI. Asking price-$55,000. Please call: 925-775-8315

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Auto for Sale

2017 Ford Escape, Titanium w/EcoBoost/AWD. 90,300 mi, Grey, all 4 new tires. Asking $13,990. Call Steve at 925-775-8315

Hearing aids

Audien Hearing. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-866-466-0762

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777.

Generators

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-773-8191 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

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"Dozer & Loader Work"
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New homes, additions, remodeling, roofing, siding, cement work.
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ALREADY BOUGHT A HOME? It's time to customize it to your taste. Consult below!

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Insurance
Auto • Fire • Life
Home • Business
155 Brady St., Allegan
673-4256

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WRAYS SEPTIC TANK & DEVELOPMENT CO.
• Septic Systems Manufactured Installed and Cleaned
• Site Preps
800-391-0203
269-673-4791
www.wraysseptic.com
1148 Lincoln Road, Allegan

REDI-MIX CONCRETE
Waanders Concrete Co.
Redi-Mix Concrete
Cement Blocks
673-6352
Babylon Road, Allegan

Hopkins Township

128 S. Franklin St. Hopkins, MI 49328
Planning Commission
Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to PA 110 of 2006, the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, the Hopkins Township Planning Commission will hold a regular meeting and Public Hearing on Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. at Hopkins Township Hall, 128 South Franklin, Hopkins MI, 49328.

The following items will be heard, considered, and possibly have action taken upon them:

1. Ordinance No. 2026-16 "Data Center Moratorium": Ord. No. 2026-16 would put a temporary moratorium in effect until July 31, 2027 or until the effective date of any amended or new Township Ordinance or regulations addressing data centers are effective, whichever date occurs first. Ord. No. 2026-16 shall become effective eight (8) days after publication of notice of its adoption.
2. Any other such items as come properly before the Planning Commission.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Hopkins Township will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the hearing to individuals with disabilities upon five (5) days written notice to the Township Clerk at PO Box 217, Hopkins, MI 49328, by phone 269-793-3188 or by email to clerk@hopkinstownship.org.

A copy of items summarized herein are available for viewing online at www.hopkinstownship.org.

HOPKINS TOWNSHIP CLERK
STACEY TIMMER
269-793-3188

RELIGION SECTION

Sometimes, it is just too easy to yield to the temptation of talking about 'pure' Christianity in the early church. Even a quick reading of the first sixteen verses of the fourth chapter of St Paul's letter to the Ephesians puts a quick end to that. Within just a few years after the ascension of Jesus, the churches were badly divided over many important beliefs. In this passage, the topic is the doctrine of the ascension.

This collision of beliefs was just beginning. It would continue to build for the next several centuries until it was supposedly resolved at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD. By then, the church was so divided over so many topics, Constantine the emperor of the Roman Empire, had grown weary of it. He chose to take strong action by calling all of the bishops from as far away as England to North Africa to the Middle East to meet in Nicaea, now part of Turkey.

This meeting can be compared to the major organized crime families having a "sit down" to resolve differences without resorting to gun fire.

Constantine announced that as the emperor, he would give the opening speech at the Council. In it, he laid down the law. Henceforth, the Christian Church would be the religious branch or spiritual arm, of the empire. The government would pay the expenses of the church, and in return, the church would be subservient to the emperor. To insure its compliance, the bishop of Rome, who for years had served as something of a general secretary, would be the spiritual head, Pope, of the church. Furthermore, the Pope would reside in Rome, the better to keep him under the watchful eye of the emperor and his army.

If this was Constantine's best effort to stop discussion and dissention within the Church, it failed. The battles between orthodoxy and heresy continued, and continue to be expressed today.

The only thing all of the debaters share in common is a passionate desire to worship, honor, and serve God. Individually, they also shared in common a belief that they alone knew what Jesus wanted. Sometimes, that got out of hand.

In 16th Century Russia, there was a conflict of doctrines on whether or not bishops were to use two fingers or three fingers of their right hand when blessing the congregation. In the end, a brutal war broke out that sent the Old Believers hurrying to the relative safety of the Ural Mountains.

Do you and I believe that Jesus is passionately concerned about the number of digits, or about how we love and care for Him and for our brothers and sisters?

I believe the world and Christianity would be far better off with less doctrine and more practical, practicing care for God and all of God's people. Jesus gave us the Two Great Commandments: Love God with all you've got; love your neighbor as yourself. Fulfilling those commandments will keep us sufficiently busy for the rest of our lives. We don't need to get into useless arguments.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomin gdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Epiphany Lutheran Church (LCMS)
4219 Parklane, Dorr
www.epiphanydorr.org
Sunday service at 9:15 a.m., Bible Study and Sunday School following

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Ganges United Methodist Church
2218 68th St
Fennville MI 49408
Phone 269-543-3581
Lay Minister - Marcia A. Tucker

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
"A Community in Worship"
Griswold Auditorium
Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
04077 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Pathfinder North Church
(A Global Methodist Church)
532 M 89, Otsego, MI 49078
9:30 Fellowship 10:00 Worship
Rev Ron Hansen
Pathfindernorth.com

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell Church of Christ
911 James St.
Plainwell, Michigan 49080

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Redemption Place Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Deborah Lesher
Church: 269-355-1167

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

UP UniPac "Contract Packaging Specialist" 809 Airway Dr. – Highland Industrial Park 269-673-8488
RAPA Rapa Electric, Inc. 1173 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 673-3155/673-3157
Waanders Concrete Co. Ready-Mix Concrete 3169 Babylon Rd., Allegan 673-6352
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NAPA AUTO PARTS 1513 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 269-673-3080
Ted's Auto Body Shop, Inc 892 34th St., Allegan 269-673-2309 Fax: 269-686-8508 tedsab1@gmail.com
A&A ANTKOVIAK & ANTKOVIAK PC For all your legal services 416 Hubbard St, Allegan • (269) 673-8468 antkoviak@frontier.com
Furniture Mattress Appliance COUNTRY HOUSE FURNITURE Your Complete Home Furnishing Store! 212 Trowbridge, Allegan, MI (269) 686-1155 8337 M-140 Hwy., South Haven, MI (269) 637-6135 www.countryhousefurniture.net
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